



Dear BUA students and families,

This will, I hope, be my last weekly COVID update. We will continue to notify you of positive cases and other developments, but with only one BUA positive test earlier this week, it appears that the surge is beginning to pass and that our protocols are working to prevent community spread. We will remain vigilant, even as we begin to relax some of the measures BUA and BU put in place earlier this winter. I am so proud of our students, parents, teachers, and staff for the way we have all come together to ride out this latest challenge. As I told our students earlier this week, this is never something any of us wanted to experience. But if I had to go through it, there is no school community in the country I'd rather tackle this with.

One Positive Test this Week

Since [I last wrote on 1/28](#), we learned of one student who tested positive through BU testing. We followed our typical protocols, including notification of close contacts and isolation of the community member who tested positive. We will notify you of future positive tests as they arise.

Monday Testing Required for Students who Missed a Test Today

Since BUA did not hold classes today (Friday), some of our students did not have the chance to take two tests this week. Any student who did not take two tests this week is required to test on Monday, preferably early in the day. Students who do not will be asked to test on Tuesday and may not attend classes that day.

The twice-weekly testing requirement will remain in place, including, for the time being, the Monday/Tuesday, Thursday/Friday rules: students who do not test Monday or Tuesday will not be permitted to attend in-person classes or activities on Wednesday (but must come to campus for a test); students who do not test Thursday or Friday will not be permitted to attend classes on Monday, unless they have received a negative result from a weekend PCR test. We will continue to review this guidance in the coming weeks.

Unmonitored Testing has Started

The University has begun to implement unmonitored COVID testing for all students. Students will now pick up nasal-swab kits from a kiosk location (like 808 Commonwealth Ave) and make an appointment to drop those kits off through the system they currently use to schedule monitored tests. Shortly before that appointment, students should find a private space to self administer the swab, which they will simply drop off at the designated time. For more on this important change, please visit this [site](#) and watch this [video](#).

Return to Play Protocols

In light of concerns about myocarditis in adolescents recovering after COVID, BUA has implemented a protocol governing how students who have tested positive can return to athletic activity. This includes primary care permission and gradual, monitored reentry. More information about Return to Play protocols can be found [here](#) and on the [BUA COVID Protocols](#) page > Academic & Extracurricular Program > Physical Education and Athletics. We have developed this protocol in consultation with our BU and BUA advisors and in alignment with American Pediatric Association guidance.

Booster Requirement

A reminder that BUA requires all eligible students to receive a booster and **upload evidence of that booster by today, February 4, or as soon after that as eligibility allows**. For instructions on how to upload proof of a booster, please see the relevant section on the [BUA COVID Protocols](#) page. As we do for other required vaccinations, we will accommodate medical and religious exemptions to this policy.

Community Moments

Please see News and Notes for information about the upcoming semi-formal dance, downhill ski trip, and stargazing. And we hope to see you on the sidelines cheering on our teams as they compete for spots in post-season play.

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at academy@bu.edu. You can find more details about BUA COVID protocols on this [page](#). Thank you for your continued support, partnership, and trust.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Christopher Kolovos". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Christopher" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Kolovos".

Chris Kolovos
Head of School