

March 3, 2022

Dear Imagine Families,

As we prepare for the Spring Break recess in our schools next week, March 7-11, we would like to provide an update regarding COVID-19 mitigation.

Last week, the Center for Disease Control <u>updated guidance</u> and is no longer recommending universal indoor mask wearing in K-12 schools or on school buses in areas with a low or medium COVID-19 Community Level. Community levels are established by CDC through three metrics: new COVID-19 hospital admissions per 100,000 population in the past 7 days, the percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients, and total new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days.

As of today, Maricopa County is in the "Medium" Community Level. Therefore, after Spring Break on March 14, Imagine Schools-Arizona's universal face mask policy will be suspended for students and staff and will move to mask optional in our school buildings, school sanctioned events, and on school buses.

In an effort to maintain a healthy learning environment, we will continue to require masks if an individual has recently been exposed to COVID-19 and/or is returning to school after having COVID-19 per the CDC guidance below.

ISOLATION (Positive Test):

- Individual isolates for 5 days from the start of symptoms (or if no symptoms, from the day the test was *collected*). After 5 days, the student or staff may be released from isolation if:
 - o The individual has not had a fever in the last 24 hours without medication
 - The individual's symptoms have improved
 - The individual feels well enough to return to school
 - The individual wears a face-covering on school premises for the remaining 5 days, including extracurricular/athletics.

QUARANTINE* (Had close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID)

- Individual quarantines at home for 5 days from the last time the individual was around the positive person, then return to school wearing a face-covering for the remaining 5 days while on school premises, OR;
- Individual participates in school-based quarantine if they do not have any COVID-like symptoms and the student wears a mask during their quarantine period

We are encouraged by the steady decline of COVID-19 spread in our community and hope that this will be our last COVID-19 update this school year. We appreciate your ongoing support, and we wish you a wonderful Spring Break next week. We look forward to seeing all of our students back on March 14th ready to begin the fourth quarter of the 2021-2022 school year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bradford Uchacz Executive Vice President Mr. Monte Lange Executive Vice President