

2021-2022 Mountain School COVID-19 Mitigation and Safety Measures

Updated August 26, 2021

Mountain School opened on August 11, 2021 fully in-person, with no options for remote learning at this time.

Pre-checking for symptoms of Covid-19 before arrival at school

- Parents will monitor children for symptoms of COVID-19:
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- Students with a pending test or symptoms should remain at home until we receive a negative Covid-19 test AND the student will need to be symptom free for at least 24 hours before returning to school, without any fever reducing medication. As an alternative you can provide a doctor's note indicating the symptoms are not contagious. **If anyone in your household is in the testing process or has tested positive, please keep siblings home until a negative test has been confirmed or the quarantine period has ended.**
- If there has been a close contact* with a COVID-19 positive person, then quarantine conditions apply in consultation with the Coconino County Health Department, until a negative COVID-19 test result is available, taken at least 5 days after contact. **Siblings of students are considered close contacts.**
- Please contact the designated COVID-19 Point of Contact, Audra Morales** for further guidance.

Symptom monitoring, contact tracing, isolation and quarantine in collaboration with the Coconino County Health Department

- We will encourage and require employees and students to stay home when they:
 - (a) feel sick,
 - (b) have tested positive for COVID-19 or are showing COVID-19 symptoms, or
 - (c) have recently had "close contact"* with a person with COVID-19, including any household member.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Siblings are considered close contacts and should remain home until a negative test result has been confirmed. ● Students or staff members who become sick at school or are identified as having had close contact* with a person with COVID-19 will be promptly isolated from other students and sent home as soon as possible. ● We encourage staff/students/families to notify the designated COVID-19 Point of Contact, Audra Morales,** if the student or a household member has COVID-19 symptoms. <p>*“Close contact” is defined as “any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 cumulative minutes starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.” Siblings are considered close contacts.</p> <p>**audram@mountaincharterschool.com, 928 779-2392, ext 200</p> <p>Note on temperature checks: The CDC does not currently recommend that schools conduct universal symptom screenings or testing of students. Therefore, we will strongly encourage parents and caregivers to monitor their children for signs of infectious illness, to immediately inform the School any time their children have close contact with a person with COVID-19, and to instruct their students who are sick or have had close contact with a person with COVID19 to not attend school. Nonetheless, we will instruct employees to watch for signs of possible student illness during the school day.</p>
<p>Face Coverings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Beginning August 19, 2021 and through September 28, 2021 Mountain School will require face coverings for all students, staff and visitors inside the school building. ● Masks will be optional outside. The CDC recommends that people who are not fully vaccinated wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people. ● All visitors, including parents and non-enrolled students over the age of 2, will be required to wear a mask inside the building until further notice. ● On July 27, 2021 the CDC issued new guidance, recommending masks indoors in counties with substantial or high transmission (regardless of vaccination status). A August 16, 2021 Arizona Superior Court ruling upheld the implementation date of A.R.S. Section 15-342.05 as September 29, 2021, which prohibited schools from requiring face coverings for students and staff. ● With our limited ability to physically distance in our small

	<p>classrooms and our students unable to be vaccinated, masking remains an important tool to prevent the spread of illness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The most effective fabrics for cloth masks are tightly woven such as cotton and cotton blends, breathable, and in two or three fabric layers. Masks with exhalation valves or vents, those that use loosely woven fabrics, and ones that do not fit properly are not recommended. Buffs and gaiters are not considered an adequate substitute for a mask at school. ● The mask is most effective if it covers both the nose and mouth at all times.
<p>Physical Distancing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Physical distancing will be practiced to the extent possible in our small classrooms. ● At lunch time students will sit physically distanced to the extent possible at tables in the gym. This time will be focused on eating quietly as it will be only 20-25 minutes long. ● Nonessential visitors, volunteers and activities will be limited on campus. ● Parents will be asked to drop children off in the drive through lane or at the front door if walking to school, and will not enter the building with their child. ● Staff will be stationed outside to assist children with getting safely to their classrooms.
<p>Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We will encourage and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or as appropriate, use of hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol after bathroom use, before and after recess, and at other appropriate times during the day. We will support healthy hygiene behaviors by providing adequate supplies, including soap, hand sanitizer and paper towels. ● We will encourage staff and students to cover coughs and sneezes and follow hand-hygiene protocols immediately thereafter. ● We will provide adequate supplies, including soap, paper towels, tissues, and alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol (for staff and children who can safely use hand sanitizer).
<p>Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mountain School staff and janitorial service will clean frequently touched surfaces (e.g., playground equipment, door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains) within the school at least daily or between uses, when reasonably feasible. ● The School will follow cleaning and disinfection best

	<p>practices and procedures, to the extent possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students should expect to bring a filled water bottle to school, which can be refilled at our filler stations. Water fountains will not be used.
HVAC and ventilation system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The HVAC system had ionizers installed on each furnace in December 2020, as well as adding fresh air vents on all furnaces that did not already have these. • The furnace fans are on from 7:45 am to 3:30 pm so that the ionizers are continuously working. During before and aftercare the gymnasium fans will be turned on/off at opening/closing times. • We currently have MERV 10 filters, the smallest diameter filters possible for the HVAC systems we have in place. Filters were replaced August 2, 2021. • Windows will be opened depending upon the outside weather conditions and classroom needs.
Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nonessential visitors, volunteers and activities will be limited on campus. • All visitors, including parents and non-enrolled students over the age of 2, will be required to wear a mask inside the building until further notice. • Parents will be asked to drop children off in the drive through lane or at the front door if walking to school; please do not enter the building with the child without prior permission from administration.
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mountain School will send out a weekly Friday COVID report specific to our school and include the Coconino County COVID-19 school report as an attachment. • Mountain School, in conjunction with Coconino County Health & Human Services, will send out applicable notices of direct or indirect contact with a positive Covid-19 case at the school, while also maintaining individual privacy in accordance with HIPAA regulations. • Makeup work for illness-related absences should be worked out individually with the classroom teacher.
Living Document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This document will be updated as needed to adapt to changing guidelines and situations and to provide better clarification.