

Las Puertas Community School's Mitigation Plan to Reduce Impact of Covid-19 on Our School Community

Promote Behaviors that Prevent Spread

Staff, students and families will/have received education on strategies that promote behaviors that prevent the spread of Covid -19. This information is being disseminated through trainings, posted directions, and written and verbal communications. This education includes the following as well as any new information that is discovered in the future. Las Puertas is:

- Educating people to stay home when sick or when they have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19
- Teaching and reinforcing the practice of hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
- Las Puertas will not require face coverings for the 2021-2022 school year, but we highly recommend face coverings for students and families as many members of our community have not received vaccines and have health issues that put them at risk.
- Face coverings are still required on the bus as it is public transportation and there is a federal mandate that requires face coverings on public transportation. This mandate runs at least until September 13th.
- Making certain that all disposable masks are disposed of safely. Safely collecting, washing and drying all cloth masks.
- Have ensured adequate supplies are available (e.g., soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, paper towels, facial tissues) in every room in the building and on the bus to support healthy hygiene behavior
- Posted signs or posters and promoting messages about behaviors that prevent spread
- Education and posting: Safety Policies and Procedures While at Las Puertas (attached)

Maintain Healthy Environments

Las Puertas is committed to maintaining a school and bus physical environments which are sanitary. Las Puertas has instituted systems that support continued inspection and follow-up behaviors which ensure the maintenance of a high level of sanitization. These systems include:

- Intensified cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces
- Ensured ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air
- Ensured all water systems are safe to use
- Modified layouts to promote social distance of at least 3feet between people – when possible
- Limiting sharing of objects, and, if sharing is necessary, clean and disinfect between use

Maintain Healthy Operations

Las Puertas, in creating systems which ensure the maintenance of healthy environments and promote healthy behaviors, has created and/or enhanced operations which:

- Protect people at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19
- To cope with stress, encourage people to take breaks from the news, take care of their bodies, take time to unwind and connect with others, particularly when they have concerns
- Maintain awareness of local or state regulations
- Maintaining social distancing at any in-person events, and limiting group size as much as possible
- Has designated a COVID-19 point of contact

- Monitors absenteeism and has created a system for back-up staffing plan
- Has trained staff on all safety protocols
- Is conducting symptom checking prior to admission to the bus and school property
- Putting in place communication systems for:
 - Individuals to self-report COVID-19 symptoms, a positive test for COVID-19, or exposure to someone with COVID-19
 - Notifying local health authorities of COVID-19 cases
 - Notifying individuals (employees, customers, students, etc.) of any COVID-19 exposures while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with privacy laws
- Notifying individuals (e.g, employees, customers, students) of any facility closures

Prepare for When Someone Gets Sick

In preparation for its re-opening of the building and transportation of students on the school bus, Las Puertas has trained staff to:

- Be aware of how to make preparations to isolate and safely transport those who are sick to their home or to a healthcare facility
- To encourage individuals who are sick to follow CDC guidance for caring for oneself and others who are sick
- Notify local health officials of any case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) external icon.
- Notify those who have had close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19 and advise them to stay home and self-monitor for symptoms, and follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop
- Advise individuals who are sick when it would be safe for them to return based on CDC's criteria to discontinue home isolation
- Close off areas used by someone who is sick. Wait >24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting. Ensure safe and correct use and storage of EPA-approved List of disinfectants external icon, including storing products securely away from children.

Safety Policies and Procedures While at Las Puertas

- All people entering the school or the bus are encouraged to wear a face mask at all times while in the school or the bus. Students will be provided with a clean face mask when entering the school or the bus when requested by student, and the mask will be collected and washed at the end of the day.
- All students in the school must practice social distancing when possible. Classroom desks will be marked out on the floor and must remain on the marks.
- Only one student at a time will be permitted to use the restroom. Restrooms will be cleaned and sanitized every hour.
- The bus will be cleaned and sanitized after pick up and drop off.
- Students will be required to use hand sanitizer when entering or leaving the classroom.
- Classrooms will be cleaned and sanitized daily.
- If any student displays symptoms of COVID-19 they will be quarantined at school until an adult can pick them up.

Mask Policy for 2021-2022:

Section 12, title 15, chapter 3 of the Arizona budget states: Notwithstanding any other law or order, a county, city, town, school district governing board or charter school governing body may not require the use of face coverings by students or staff during school hours and on school property; and a school district or charter school may not require a student or teacher to receive a vaccine for COVID-19 or to wear a face covering to participate in in-person instruction.

Las Puertas will not require face coverings for the 2021-2022 school year, but we highly recommend face coverings for students and families as many members of our community have not received vaccines and have health issues that put them at risk. This policy is subject to change based on changing health conditions. We still believe at Las Puertas that the best defense against the spread of any contagious disease is to wash hands regularly, regular cleaning and disinfecting of high use areas and the use of face coverings. If you have any questions please contact the school at 546-9296.

Face coverings are still required on the bus as it is public transportation and there is a federal mandate that requires face coverings on public transportation. This mandate runs at least until September 13th.