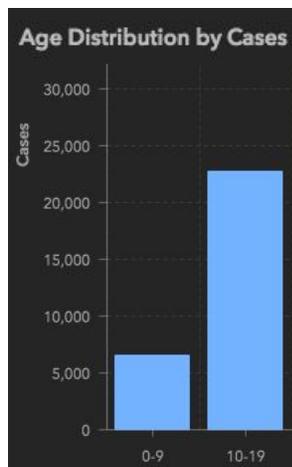


Dear Montessori Academy of Chambersburg Community,

11/13/2020

The following COVID-19 Response Plan is intended to supplement the Montessori Academy [Phased Reopening Health and Safety Plan](#). The original plan, approved by our Board of Directors and published at the onset of the 2020/2021 school year, utilized a framework provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and reflected the Governor's color-coded, phased reopening model. As the school year progresses, we recognize that the Governor's reopening phases are no longer in use and that we must establish other parameters in order to inform school decision making. School leadership sought to incorporate information from a variety of sources, including data and guidance from the Department of Education, Department of Health, and CDC, in addition to survey information from staff, families, and other local schools, both public and private. Based on this research, we believe that we have developed a plan that will allow us to keep each group of students on campus for as long as possible, while maintaining our ability to ensure the health and safety of our community and the continuity of a high quality educational experience.

Data on the distribution of COVID-19 cases among individuals of different ages in Pennsylvania paints a clear picture of a significantly increased risk of COVID in children ages 10 and above (see graph on bottom left). Therefore, Montessori Academy leadership has developed a leveled COVID-19 Response that outlines plans for different age groups of students. The Montessori Academy COVID-19 Response Plan takes into consideration each group's relative risk of contracting and spreading the COVID-19 virus within the wider Franklin County community's COVID status.



In the pages that follow, you will find two tables of information. The first table of information defines the Montessori Academy COVID-19 Response Levels. We started the school year in Level 1, with consistent “moderate” transmission, and are currently in Level 2. The second table outlines Montessori Academy's planned learning models for each group of students, depending on which response level is warranted. Referring to these tables of information, you can see that Upper Elementary and Middle School students (grade 4-8) will shift to distance learning if Franklin County's COVID positivity rises to 15% or above. Lower Elementary (grades 1-3) will shift to distance learning if Franklin County's COVID positivity rises to 20% or above. County COVID positivity rate updates are published on Mondays and, if needed, distance learning for affected groups of students would commence two days later, on Wednesday. Thank you for your consistent feedback and ongoing support as our school works to ensure the health and safety of our students, teachers, and families.



Table 1: Defining Montessori Academy COVID-19 Response Levels.

Montessori Academy Response Level	Franklin County COVID Incidence
Level 1	Consistent “Low” or “Moderate” Transmission (PDE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PCR Percent Positivity < 10% (PA DoH) ● Incidence Rate (per 100,000 residents) <100
Level 2	“Substantial” Transmission (PDE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PCR Percent Positivity < 15% (PA DoH) for any 2 consecutive reporting periods (2 weeks) ● Incidence Rate (per 100,000 residents) ≥ 100
Level 3	“Substantial” Transmission (PDE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PCR Percent Positivity ≥ 15% (PA DoH) ● Incidence Rate (per 100,000 residents) ≥ 100
Level 4	“Substantial” Transmission (PDE) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PCR Percent Positivity ≥ 20% (PA DoH) ● Incidence Rate (per 100,000 residents) ≥ 100
Level 5	“Substantial” Transmission (PA DoH) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wide-spread government-mandated shutdowns affecting Franklin County and/or Montessori Academy

Table 2: COVID-19 Response Plan

Montessori Academy Response Level	Toddler Community and PreK	Kindergarten	Lower Elementary	Upper Elementary and Middle
Level 1	On campus care and education for all students. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to “Green Phase” of Phased Reopening Health and Safety Plan Response to COVID incidence in Montessori Academy community on a case-by-case basis, according to “Recommendations for Pre-K to 12 Schools Following Identification of a Case(s) of COVID-19” 			
Level 2	On campus care and education for all students. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to “Green Phase” of Phased Reopening Health and Safety Plan Response to COVID incidence in Montessori Academy community on a case-by-case basis Frequent tracking of local COVID-19 data and increased Board communication Initiate weekly community updates to communicate Franklin County COVID levels and communicate Montessori Academy’s COVID-19 Response Plan 			
Level 3	On-campus care and education: Toddler, PreK, Kindergarten, Grades 1-3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to “Yellow Phase” of Phased Reopening Health and Safety Plan Increased vigilance of maintaining class cohorts and reducing staff movement through building, increased social distancing vigilance for Excel Toddler/PreK Options: On campus or tuition credit 		Distance Learning: Grades 4-8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need-based on-campus supervision Distance Learning continues until positivity rate <15% for 2 reporting periods (ie. 2 weeks) 	
Level 4	On-campus care and education: Toddler, PreK, and K <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to “Yellow Phase” of Phased Reopening Health and Safety Plan Increased vigilance of maintaining class cohorts and reducing staff movement through building, increased social distancing vigilance for Excel Toddler/PreK Options: On campus or tuition credit 		Distance Learning: Grades 1-8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need-based on-campus supervision Distance Learning continues until positivity rate <15% for 2 reporting periods (ie. 2 weeks) 	
Level 5	Potential on-campus care for Essential Workers only* Options: Distance Learning may be offered for toddler/preK, or tuition credit available	Distance Learning: Grades K-8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential on-campus supervision for Essential Workers only* Distance Learning continues until positivity rate <15% for 2 reporting periods (ie. 2 weeks) 		

Definitions:

Transmission: the spread of the virus in a community

PCR Percent Positivity: the percent of COVID-19 tests in a 7 day reporting period that were positive for COVID

Incidence Rate: the number of people per 100,000 residents that have been diagnosed COVID-19 in a 7 day reporting period

Reporting Period: a set period of time during which COVID-19 data is collected and then published. Each PA COVID-19 data reporting period runs Thursday through Friday, with data published the following Monday.

Sources:

Pennsylvania Department of Education, updated weekly. [“Level of Community Transmission Table”](#)

Pennsylvania Department of Education, 8/10/2020. [“Determining Instructional Models”](#)

Pennsylvania Department of Education, 8/13/2020. [“Recommendations for Pre-K to 12 Schools Following Identification of a Case\(s\) of COVID-19”](#)

Pennsylvania Department of Health, updated weekly. [“COVID-19 Early Warning System Dashboard”](#)

Pennsylvania Department of Health, updated weekly. [“COVID-19 Data for Pennsylvania”](#)

*On campus care/supervision potentially available at all levels, unless full campus closure is required by the Department of Health, Department of Education, or other authorized government agency.