

August 13, 2021

Dear ASA Families,

Countdown to the first day of school! As we head into the weekend, I wanted to inform you of the important decision reached last night at a special public meeting of our Board of Directors to decide ASA's policy on face masks for the immediate future. In the interest of community health and still in compliance with the state law set forth in June as part of the budget reconciliation, ASA will require face masks indoors for all students, faculty, staff, and visitors to campus. However, a notarized waiver from parents, faculty or staff will be accepted for those who wish to opt out of this policy.

Our top priorities are to keep our community healthy and our kids in school. The CDC and our own Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) state strongly and with scientific evidence that the most important and effective measures to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus are to get vaccinated (if eligible) and to wear face masks.

We will continue to practice additional layers of mitigation including social distancing as much as possible, daily deep cleaning, and providing abundant sanitizer. Additionally, we will be conducting regular pooled testing (with parent permission) to quickly identify positive COVID-19 cases. County Health will notify individuals who test positive through separate notification and provide all quarantine guidelines and requirements.

Thank you to everyone who voiced their concerns last night and through the last week. I know we will come together to support our kids and keep ASA strong and healthy!

On a final note, today we welcomed all our new ASA students to a fun-filled morning and official orientation led by our fabulous faculty and Student Ambassadors. We also celebrated the **Senior Class of 2022** during a hosted breakfast generously underwritten by some of our senior parents. We are energized and ready for our first day of school this coming Tuesday!

Warmly,

Leah Fregulia

Head of School/CEO