

# FLAGSTAFF JUNIOR ACADEMY

*A Montessori-Inspired, Experiential Charter School • Ages 3 through 8th Grade*

306 W. Cedar Ave, Flagstaff AZ 86001  
928.774.6007 Cedar Campus

755 N. Bonito St, Flagstaff AZ 86001  
928.214.7317 Middle School

[www.fjacademy.com](http://www.fjacademy.com)

January 2, 2022

Good Afternoon and Happy New Year FJA Families,

I hope that you all had a wonderful winter break. We are looking forward to welcoming students back to in-person school tomorrow! As I'm sure most of you are aware, COVID-19 cases are on the rise, both locally and nationally. During these times, FJA is committed to maintaining in-person learning while also ensuring student and staff safety.

Although COVID fatigue is undoubtedly real with the pandemic's many waves and case surges, our staff will continue its diligence in upholding our mitigation measures. And, based upon the incredible support our families showed during our first semester, we know that all of you will continue to send children to school with well-fitting masks and keep children home who have any COVID-like symptoms. We thank you for all your hard work so far this year. It truly is a partnership between home and school to have in-person learning with as few disruptions as possible. Together, I am confident that—no matter what comes our way—we will have a successful second semester.

Please take a few minutes to review some of FJA's main COVID-prevention practices outlined below.

Sincerely,  
Carissa Morrison, Ed.D.  
Director, Flagstaff Junior Academy

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- **Masks:** Our mask policy requires mask wearing indoors at all times. The only exception to this is when inclement weather requires us to eat outdoors. During these times, we use physical distancing as a mitigation measure. With increased transmissibility, recommendations are now for use of medical grade or KN95 masks when available. For more on FJA's Mask Mandate and Guidance, please click here:

<https://fjacademy.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Mask-Mandate-Guidance-Updated-September.pdf>

- **Ventilation:** We know that ventilation of enclosed spaces and keeping doors and windows open helps with reduction of transmission. All our rooms will continue to run HEPA portable air filters throughout the day. Please dress your child warmly so we can continue to crack windows and doors as weather permits.



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*Educating the whole child through academics, experiential excellence, and community*

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- **Cohorting:** We continue to cohort our students when they are indoors to limit the number of students they are exposed to throughout the school day. This means that students in PreK through sixth grade are only exposed to approximately the same 20-25 students throughout the day. Seventh and eighth graders have slightly larger cohorts—approximately 35-45 students.
- **Pooled Testing:** We will continue weekly pooled testing on Wednesday mornings with necessary follow-up testing on Thursdays. The more students and staff who enroll in this program, the more quickly positive cases can be identified. If you haven't enrolled your child yet, we encourage you to do so. It is a quick, painless nasal swab that students do themselves. You can enroll your child at the web address below with access code "FJA2021":

<https://testcenter.concentricbyginkgo.com/minor-consent/>

- **Stay Home When Sick:** We continue to follow a "Stay Home When Sick" policy that requires students and staff to stay home when they exhibit COVID-like symptoms, including, but not limited to, the following: a temperature above 100.4 degrees, loss of taste or smell, body aches, coughing and/or congestion. Students and staff with COVID-like symptoms should stay home until their symptoms improve, they are fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication, and have a negative COVID test. We have rapid tests available at each campus's front office for these purposes, and results can be emailed to both [annachase@fjademy.com](mailto:annachase@fjademy.com) and [carissamorrison@fjademy.com](mailto:carissamorrison@fjademy.com)
- **Isolation/Quarantine:** These guidelines and timelines have been updated recently by the Centers for Disease Control and the Arizona Department of Health Services. Our FJA governing board meets this Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> and will review these updates against school policy and adjust as needed.