

Montessori Pathways School / Summer Camp

COVID-19, Phase 5 Reopening Protocol



Updated: July 15, 2021

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued updated guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in Kindergarten (K)-12 Schools on July 9, 2021. The State of Illinois has adopted the CDC guidance, which can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>. Schools should work with local public health officials to determine the prevention strategies needed in their area by monitoring levels of community transmission (i.e., low, moderate, substantial, or high) and local vaccine coverage, and use of screening testing to detect cases in K-12 schools.

We have worked hard this past year to follow the public health guidance with fidelity and we will continue to do so with some layered mitigation strategies as recommended by the CDC and IDPH, including face covering, social distancing, daily professional cleaning & disinfection, high quality ventilation, contact tracing, and promotion of good hand hygiene.

Please be assured that we at Montessori Pathways School (MPS) take the safety and health of our students, including your child, your family, and our staff very seriously. Because of this, we have implemented protocols and practices in accordance with guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and the Illinois Department of Health and Environment. And, as we have done since the beginning of the pandemic, we will continue to monitor local incidence rates and other data to determine if we need to make any changes to our health and safety protocol.

The safety and health of our students, faculty, staff, and families will lead how and where we learn and operate. Our belief in our mission and our many years of experience and expertise will ensure the quality and high standards of our instruction.

General Health

Key Takeaways

- Students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority.
- Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Promoting vaccination can help schools safely return to in-person learning as well as extracurricular activities and sports.
- Masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated. Consistent and correct mask use by people who are not fully vaccinated is especially important indoors and in crowded settings, when physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- CDC recommends schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing by people who are not fully vaccinated, to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, such as when schools cannot fully re-open while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as indoor masking.
- Screening testing, ventilation, hand washing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection are also important layers of prevention to keep schools safe.
- Students, teachers, and staff should stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.

- Many schools serve children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, this guidance emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies (e.g., using multiple prevention strategies together consistently) to protect people who are not fully vaccinated, including students, teachers, staff, and other members of their households.
- COVID-19 prevention strategies remain critical to protect people, including students, teachers, and staff, who are not fully vaccinated, especially in areas of moderate-to-high community transmission levels.
- Localities should monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies (e.g., physical distancing, screening testing). Vaccination data by county can be found here <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/vaccinedata>

It is important to note that these requirements are subject to change pursuant to updated public health guidance and changing public health conditions.

Type of Learning in 2021-2022

Students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority.

However, we take the COVID situation, including increasing Delta Variant cases, seriously and do not want to put our faculty, students and their families at risk. Therefore, we ask our families to read all of our updates attentively and follow all of our rules and requirements respectfully.

Please understand that all students and teachers' families have their own circumstances and health history, and coming to school every day can make them feel unsafe and uncomfortable if some of us simply ignore school's requirements. Let's be protective of and respectful to each other.

Health and Safety Guidelines

Daily Staff and Students' Health Screening:

Observe your child every morning before sending to school:

1. Keep your child home if your child is experiencing any symptoms of sickness (temperature, cough, sneezing, fatigue, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, pink eye, etc...)
2. If the child's temperature is 100 degrees or greater, he or she must be kept at home until fever free for 48 hours, in the absence of fever-reducing medications (per DHEC Guidelines).
3. MPS staff member will make a visual inspection of the child for signs of illness which could include flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), fatigue, or extreme fussiness.
4. If the child's temperature is 100 degrees F or greater during the day or if the child is experiencing any Covid related symptoms, an MPS staff member will mask the student immediately, isolate him/her from others, and notify the office. The office will use emergency contact numbers to call a parent or caregiver to return to school and pick up the child as soon as possible.

Drop Off and Pick Up Procedure* (wearing a mask for unvaccinated parents and teachers is required):

~ Parents or guardians are not allowed to enter the building or playground during the pandemic. ~

Carpool line (scheduled) arrival / dismissal

- Arrival - parents escort their child to the front door.

- Dismissal – teacher brings the child(ren) or send them (if old enough) to the car.

All Day Program or mid-day (not scheduled) arrival / dismissal

- Arrival - park your car in the school's parking lot, bring your child to the front door, ring the bell, and leave as soon as your child is in and supervised by the teacher. Do not enter the building.
- Dismissal – park your car in the school's parking lot, come to the front door, call the school at 815-459-6727, and wait outside until your child is getting ready to go home. To make this process faster, you can call the school 5-10 min prior to arrival.
- Do not enter school.

Back yard arrival / dismissal

- Arrival - park your car in the school's parking lot, bring your child to the gate and leave as soon as your child is supervised by the teacher
- Dismissal – park your car in the school's parking lot, come to the gate, and wait until your child is released.
- Do not enter school's playground.

No contact with other kids or staff during arrival or dismissal please. All notes, questions, or concerns should be addressed via email or phone call please.

Hand Hygiene:

1. All students and staff are required to wash their hands with soap and water for no less than 20 sec. upon arrival.
2. Hand washing should be done every hour by everyone present at school.
3. In addition, everyone will practice hand washing:
 - Each time when entering the building after recess or other outside trip
 - Before using any work or material from the shelf
 - Right after using any work or material from the shelf
 - Before and after serving meal (for staff)
 - Before and after each meal
 - Before and after touching face
 - After using bathroom
 - After blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing
 - Before and after health screening (for staff)
 - Before and after using gloves for any purpose, including cleaning and disinfecting
 - As necessary

Social Distancing:

To reduce the spread of infection:

1. Parents and guardians must follow the school's "Drop off and Pick Up Procedure" and will not be permitted to enter the school building, walk their children to the classroom door, or enter the school's playground.

2. Unvaccinated parents are required to practice social distancing and wear masks for drop off/pick up.
3. No visitors or volunteers, except officials or maintenance workers (mask is required), are allowed in the building while social distancing is required. All officials or workers will be screened, and their information will be recorded in case contact tracing is needed.
4. CDC recommends schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing by people who are not fully vaccinated, to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, such as when schools cannot fully re-open while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as indoor masking.
5. Classrooms' exit doors will be used for each class to enter and exit the classroom as much as possible.
6. East and South Room students are encouraged to use the restrooms in their classrooms. Elementary students and staff will use the restrooms in the hallway (one person at a time in each restroom except when teacher needs to help the child to be cleaned and changed)
7. Outdoor activities will be increased as much as possible
8. Parent/Teacher Conferences or other meetings with parents will be scheduled virtually until all restrictions are lifted.
9. Waving and smiles will replace hugging, handshaking, high fives and other forms of physical contact until further notice.
10. Children's naptime cots will be spaced out as much as possible, 3-6 feet apart. Children will be placed head to toe in order to further reduce the potential for viral spread. Nap stuffed animals will not be allowed until further notice.
11. No toys or other items from home that are not related to the educational process or child's daily care are allowed at school.

Modeling and Reinforcing Healthy Hygiene Habits and Social Skills:

Teach, model, and reinforce healthy hygiene habits and social skills:

Suggestions include:

- Practice frequent hand hygiene by teaching a child-friendly song or counting to 20.
- Explain to students why it's not healthy to share drinks or food.
- Teach students to use tissue to wipe their nose and to cough inside their elbow.
- Model and practice hand hygiene before and after eating, coughing, sneezing, playing outside, and using the restroom.

Sources: <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/training-education.html>

Create a classroom environment that promotes positive teacher and student relationships that support student social-emotional well-being and self-esteem:

Suggestions include:

- Promote empathy through conversations about other people's feelings and perspectives.
- Talk about respect and responsibilities.
- Build a coping toolbox that includes body- and mind-calming strategies.

Face Covering Policy:

(IDPH School Guidance - <http://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/school-guidance>)

We keep receiving more and more phone calls from prospective families about our program and all of these conversations begin with the question “Will kids be required to wear masks at school?”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued updated guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in Kindergarten (K)-12 Schools on July 9, 2021. The State of Illinois has adopted the CDC guidance, which can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>.

Masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated.

Consistent and correct mask use by people who are not fully vaccinated is especially important indoors and in crowded settings, when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

Mask Policy

1. Staff.

To slow the spread of COVID-19, unvaccinated program staff shall wear a face covering while serving children in the building and interacting with parents and families.

2. Children.

- a) The kids, who can safely and appropriately wear, remove, and tolerate masks, are highly encouraged to wear masks in the building unless there is any condition that is listed in the “Exceptions to Use of Face Coverings” part of our protocol. We ask parents to practice wearing a mask at home before sending them to school to prevent frequent touching of the face and mask.
- b) Increased social distancing will be considered for students who are not able to tolerate either a face covering due to sensory or other issues.
- c) Physician’s note documenting the medical condition is required for any student who is not able to wear a face covering due to their health condition.
- d) All students must have 2 or more **clean cloth masks** or **new surgical masks** in a labeled zip-lock bag at school.
- e) Cloth masks will be sent home in the same zip-lock at the end of the day and **must be washed** at the end of each day.
- f) Surgical mask **will be disposed** of at the end of the day. **Used surgical masks are not allowed at school to be re-used.**

Children do not need to be encouraged to wear a face covering:

- a. While children are eating / drinking, sleeping, and napping. Strict and consistent physical distancing must always be practiced during these activities.
- b. While engaging in active outdoor play as long as children are able to keep physical distance from others.

Since kids are not required to wear masks while outside, outside work, presentations, story time, and explorations should be encouraged by teachers as much as possible.

Exceptions to Use of Face Coverings, may include, but are not limited to:

- a. Children under 2 years old

- b. Children who have difficulty breathing with the face covering or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the cover without assistance
- c. Children with severe cognitive or respiratory impairments that may have a hard time tolerating a face covering.

3. Parents.

Unvaccinated parents are required to practice social distancing and wear masks for drop off/pick up. All parents are required wearing masks while in the school's building if needed.

Back-to-School Events:

Typical introductory events, such as visit days and orientation meetings designed to allow students and parents to tour building facilities and meet teachers, may not have occurred as they have historically.

Since not all parents are vaccinated, we still consider meeting parents for orientation night virtually. Meeting students with teachers will be done by individual appointments. Masks are required.

The other school events will be announced depending on current Covid -19 situations in our area.

Food Preparation and Meal Service:

1. No self-serve snacks until further notice. Snack (fruits or veggies) will be served on individual plates by teachers.
2. Children cannot assist with snack preparation.
3. We are returning to our complimentary organic hot lunches provided by [Gourmet Gorilla](#) catering company beginning August 26, 2021. They offer regular lunches, vegetarian lunches, and gluten/dairy free lunches. Please make sure that we are aware of your child's diet style.

If your family prefers to provide home lunch due to any reason, please let us know and we will not be ordering lunch for your child. Please be aware that we are PEANUT / NUT FREE school and encourage healthy lunches for our students (no juice/Gatorade, sweets, junk food please)

4. Teachers must use appropriate PPE, including gloves and face coverings, while preparing and distributing snacks and lunch. Frequent hand hygiene is required. Teachers should wash their hands after removing their gloves or after directly handling food service items that have been used.
5. Surfaces (tables and counters) that come in contact with food should be washed, rinsed, and sanitized before and after meals.

Recess and Physical Education

While McHenry County area is not considered as an area of substantial or high transmission level, the students and teachers will not be required to wear masks when outdoors (e.g., participating in outdoor play, recess, and physical education activities).

However, particularly in areas of [substantial to high transmission](#) levels, people who are not fully vaccinated are encouraged to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated. When physical education activities or recess are held indoors, it is particularly important for people who are not fully vaccinated to wear masks and maximize distance when possible.

Water Bottles:

Water bottles should be sent with kids daily and they will be sent home at the end of each day for cleaning, sanitizing, and refilling.

Water bottles must have a flip top lid to cover the “mouth part” and protect it from constant touching.

School Bags:

Every student will get their own bag for the school year. This bag must be checked daily for replacing soiled clothes, dirty masks, cleaning and refilling water bottle, for any child’s projects, or school’s information for parents.

Personal Protective Equipment / Staff Training:

Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) is made available to and used by staff, as needed, based on exposure risk. Staff is trained prior to the start of student attendance on the proper use of PPE, including putting on and removing PPE. In addition, training also includes directions on the proper disposal of PPE since inappropriate application or removal of PPE can increase the transmission.

Prior to re-opening, staff members are required to attend an in-service training on COVID-19 information and new protocols (how it spreads, requirement for face masks, hand washing requirements, material sanitizing, proper cleaning techniques, food prep and service, what to do if a child displays symptoms).

Cleaning and Sanitizing:

1. The school will continue to provide cleaning services that follow CDC requirements at the end of each day.
2. Visibly dirty areas should be scrubbed to remove visible dirt/soilage and then an approved disinfectant should be used to kill germs.
3. Classroom and office staff will intensify cleaning and disinfecting efforts, including but not limited to frequently disinfecting items that are touched often (**doorknobs, sink and faucets, light switchers, tables, chairs, counters, refrigerator door handles, microwaves/ovens, pencil sharpeners, computer keyboards, hands-on learning items, phones, cubbies, coat areas, etc.**), with a required chlorine solution (4 teaspoons bleach per quart of room temperature water. Bleach solutions will be effective for disinfection for up to 24 hours)
4. Gloves and other appropriate Personal Protective Equipment must be used during cleaning and disinfection:
 - ✓ Always follow label directions.
 - ✓ Allow the required wet contact time. Disinfectants need to remain wet on surfaces up to 10 min to properly disinfect.
 - ✓ Keep all disinfectants out of the reach of children.
 - ✓ Do not mix bleach or other cleaning products and disinfectants together.
5. Cleaning products will not be used near children, and staff should ensure that there is adequate ventilation when using these products to prevent children from inhaling toxic fumes.
6. Air circulation in the areas will be increased by opening screened windows as much as possible.
7. Air Purifier with HEPA filter and UV Sanitizer will be used in every classroom, office, and hallway.
8. All permissible items will be regularly washed in our commercial high temperature sanitizing dishwashing machine.

9. Per CDC, outdoor areas, like playgrounds in schools and parks generally require normal routine cleaning, but do not require disinfection. Cleaning and disinfection of wooden surfaces (play structures, benches, tables) or groundcovers (mulch, sand) is not recommended.

If someone is or becomes sick:

Every symptomatic person should be evaluated by their healthcare provider on a case-by-case basis and decisions to test for COVID-19 should be based on their personal health history. Each episode of new symptom onset should be evaluated. Diagnostic testing is strongly encouraged whenever an individual experiences COVID-like symptoms; it is possible to have COVID-19 and other health conditions at the same time. Early diagnosis can prevent further transmission. Individuals who have undergone testing should remain home away from others while waiting for COVID-19 test results.

Currently known symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| ✓ Fever | ✓ headache |
| ✓ Cough | ✓ sore throat |
| ✓ shortness of breath or difficulty breathing | ✓ new loss of taste or smell |
| ✓ chills | ✓ congestion or runny nose |
| ✓ fatigue | ✓ nausea or vomiting |
| ✓ muscle and body aches | ✓ diarrhea |

1. Any MPS staff member or student who is experiencing any symptoms of illness while at school will be sent home immediately and recommended to seek a health care specialists' consultation.
2. Any student who is experiencing any symptoms of illness will be **removed from the group and isolated** in a designated area (front lobby) on a bench or cot. The child's **parents will be contacted immediately** and **required to pick up their child from school** as soon as possible, but no later than in 2 hours. **Students should never be left alone** and must always be supervised while maintaining necessary precautions.
3. Surfaces in the isolation room or area and used items will be cleaned and disinfected after the sick child has gone home.
4. All students and staff sent home with COVID-like symptoms should be diagnostically tested. Student and staff should remain home from school until they receive the test results.

Keep our school informed:

The faculty and students' parents of Montessori Pathways School are required to notify the school in the following cases:

- a) If they or members of their families are / were / or will be traveling outside of USA or Illinois.
- b) If they or members of their families are diagnosed with COVID-19
- c) If their child who is currently enrolled in our program is diagnosed with any communicable or complicated disease such as COVID-19, Influenza, Strep, Pink Eye, Head-Foot-Mouth, Chicken Pox, Croup, Mums, Head Lice, Pneumonia, etc.

Travel Policy

Per CDC, travel increases your chance of getting and spreading COVID-19. Visit CDC's [Travel During COVID-19](#) for more information and steps to take if you must travel.

You may have been exposed to COVID-19 on your travels. You may feel well and not have any symptoms, but you can still spread the virus to others. **You and your travel companions (including [children](#)) may pose a risk to your family, friends, and community after your travel.**

If you still decided to travel, please see the steps below that you have to follow after returning:

After You Travel (IDPH)

Check Chicago Travel Advisory web page for the status of the state where you traveled to and are returning from: <https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid-19/home/emergency-travel-order.html>

If the state is “YELLOW”:

1. If your child **is not** experiencing any symptoms after returning, your child can return to school. Parents are required to monitor the child’s condition for several days after returning.
2. If your child **is** experiencing any symptoms after returning:
 - Keep your child home.
 - Evaluate your child with his/her pediatrician.
 - Return to school with doctor’s approval note or negative Covid-19 test result.

If the state is “ORANGE or RED”:

Option 1:

[Get tested](#) with a [viral test](#) 3-5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel.

- ✓ Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days.
- ✓ If your test is positive, [isolate](#) yourself to protect others from getting infected.

Option 2:

If you don’t get tested, stay home and **self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.**

Avoid being around people who are at [increased risk for severe illness](#) for 14 days, whether you get tested or not.

If COVID-19 is confirmed in a child or staff member (CDC recommendations):

- Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
- Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the areas.
- Wait up to 24 hours or as long as possible before cleaning or disinfecting to allow respiratory droplets to settle before cleaning and disinfecting. If 24 hours are not possible, wait as long as is possible.
- Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as offices, bathrooms, and common areas.
- Vacuum the space, if needed, with a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter, if available.

Do not vacuum a room or space that has people in it. Wait until the room or space is empty to vacuum, such as at night, and temporarily turn off room fans and the central HVAC system that services the room or space, so that particles that escape from vacuuming will not circulate throughout the facility.

- The area can be opened for use once it has been appropriately disinfected.
- Individuals who did not have close contact with the person who is sick can return to work immediately after disinfection.
- Unvaccinated people who had contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or is suspected of having COVID-19 infection should isolate at home and monitor for symptoms for 14 days. Close contact means the individual was within 6 feet of the individual with symptoms for more than 15 minutes.
- Vaccinated people who were exposed to people diagnosed with Covid are not required to quarantine unless they experience any symptoms.
- Additional cleaning and disinfection are not necessary if more than seven days have elapsed since the person who is sick visited or used the school.
- Continue routine cleaning and disinfection. This includes everyday practices that schools normally use to maintain a healthy environment

McHenry County Health Department will be notified for further guidance. The school might be closed up to 14 days depending on MCHD recommendation. Distance learning will be provided to our students if emergency school closure is required during the school year.

Returning to School:

In accordance with state and federal guidance, school community members who are sick should not return to school until they have met criteria to return. Schools may wish to consider a symptom checklist for families and staff to use to determine if they are well enough to attend that day.

1. I think or know I had COVID-19, and I had symptoms:

You can be with others after:

- At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared **AND**
- At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication **AND**
- Symptoms have improved

Depending on your healthcare provider's advice and availability of testing, you might get tested to see if you still have COVID-19.

If you are tested, you can be around others when you have:

- No fever **AND**
- Respiratory symptoms have improved **AND**
- You receive two negative test results in a row, at least 24 hours apart.

2. I tested positive for COVID-19 but had no symptoms

If you continue to have no symptoms, you can be with others after:

- 10 days have passed since test

Depending on your healthcare provider's advice and availability of testing, you might get tested to see if you still have COVID-19. If you will be tested, you can be around others after you receive two negative test results in a row, at least 24 hours apart.

If you develop symptoms after testing positive, follow the guidance above for "I think or know I had COVID, and I had symptoms."

Students and staff members with confirmed COVID-19 or related to Covid-19 symptoms can return to school only with official health care specialist's approval note and/or negative Covid-19 test result.

3. For Anyone Who Has Been Around a Person with COVID-19

Unvaccinated student or staff member who has close contact with someone with COVID-19 **should remain in mandated quarantine at home for 14 days** before they are able to return to normal activities. Such protocols are important given that individuals can continue to shed the virus for 7-21 days after initial infection.

Returning to school will be possible only with official health care specialist's approval.

Persons who **have had lab-confirmed COVID-19 within the past 90 days** or those **fully vaccinated**, according to CDC guidelines, are not required to quarantine if identified as a close contact to a confirmed case unless they experience any symptoms.

4. If student or staff member is experiencing COVID-like symptoms, but being diagnosed with a non-COVID

✓ Medical evaluation and COVID-19 diagnostic testing is strongly recommended for all persons with COVID-like symptoms.

✓ Students and staff returning to school after experiencing COVID-like symptoms but being diagnosed with a non-COVID illness must meet the criteria for returning to school for the illness with which they have been diagnosed. At a minimum, the individual must be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and have had no diarrhea or vomiting in the previous 24 hours. Other diseases have specific criteria for when a student or staff member can return to school (see Parent Handbook). Follow school health policies and communicable disease guidance for those illnesses.

A doctor's note documenting the alternative diagnosis, or a negative COVID-19 test result should accompany a student or staff member returning to school with an alternative diagnosis after experiencing COVID-like symptoms.

✓ Students and staff with COVID-like symptoms who do not get tested for COVID-19 and who do not provide a healthcare provider's note documenting an alternative diagnosis, must complete:

- 10 calendar days of isolation from the date of first symptom onset **and**
- be fever-free for 24 hours without use of fever-reducing medications **and**
- other symptoms have improved before returning to school.

If school closure will be required by state due to increased level of pandemic:

We all understand that the school operation will not be the same at least for a while. Depending on our community's level of respect, responsibility, and ability to follow the state's requirements, the level of the pandemic can be lower or higher.

We ask all of our school community members to remember about their own health and safety, and the health and safety of the people around them. Please follow all school's rules and requirements regarding health and safety to avoid frequent school closures.

If school closure will be required during Summer Camp, the program will be cancelled for the required period and parents will be released from payments for the closure period.

If school closure will be required during the School Year, distance learning will be provided by the school's faculty.

Tuition during school closure:

During distance learning, all parents will be responsible for School Day tuition or for Morning program tuition if your child was initially enrolled in the Morning program.

Before and After school care tuition will be waived for the closure period.

If parents will refuse to pay tuition for distance learning program during emergency school closure, their children will be automatically un-enrolled from the school until the end of the school year and their spot will be offered to families on the wait list.

We ask parents to remember that our private school relies on tuition. It does not rely on government funding, so when parents don't pay their tuition because their kids are home schooling due to the pandemic, it causes a shortfall.

Switching to distance learning does not mean the school reduces its expenses such as teachers' and other support specialists' (like school's accountant or attorney) salary, rent, property taxes, insurance, maintenance, landscaping, utility bills, official inspection fees, membership fees, etc.

Conversely, distance learning requires additional expenses in online and technical support.

As your family chose Montessori Pathways School for your child's education, we are counting on your family's understanding, cooperation, and support in saving our school for your child's education and for the future.

Epilogue

We are counting on a close and trusting partnership between the school and community in order to ensure understanding, cooperation, and support in COVID prevention and mitigation strategies. Clear and open communication is vital for overall success. Such stringent mitigation strategies are designed not only to protect the students but also to protect the more vulnerable members of the school community and staff.

The policies outlined above will continue to evolve as the country moves through the phases of reopening, and as impacts of initial reopening regulations become understood. Montessori Pathways School will continue to monitor state and federal changes and notify parents of any changes to this document.

Parents will initial and sign an agreement that they will support faithfully the measures outlined above before their children may attend school.

(Please check next page)

Montessori Pathways School / Summer Camp
COVID-19, Phase 5 Reopening Protocol
Updated on July 15, 2021

Please read this protocol attentively, sign, and return this page to school prior to your child's first day attendance.

I / We _____,
(Parents/Guardians' name)

have read this protocol, agree and support faithfully the measures outlined above.

Per IDPH and MCDH, the School Safety Protocol that is created based on CDC, IDPH, and MCDH regulations is for the school community safety and is not subject to discussion, cannot be argued, or ignored.

Parents/Guardians Signature: _____

Date of Signature: _____