



November 13, 2020

Dear BBS families,

As you are aware, Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) updated our school benchmarks on November 12, 2020. The COVID-19 data swiftly and constantly evolve, and BBS - in conjunction with MCDPH – constantly analyzes this data to ensure the physical, mental, and social-emotional safety of all Bright Beginnings students. After considering a wide range of data, BBS will **currently remain in a hybrid learning model**, serving both online and in-person students. Guided by MCDPH's process, our strong mitigation plan and ability to continue staffing our school were strong data points for our decision.

BBS implements safety and mitigation protocols to keep students and staff safe. We monitor symptoms and temperatures, mandate masks, social distance to the greatest extent possible, and limit visitors on campus and in the building. In fact, in conversation with MCDPH, they told us our mitigation was above and beyond the requirements. Moreover, we extended this same care in how we handled our recent positive case. We did not wait until Monday to quarantine potentially exposed students and staff. We called on Sunday night to ensure no one who was potentially exposed arrived on campus on Monday morning. We love our BBS family and want to keep everyone safe.

We are doing all we can to ensure safety, but we are not oblivious to the rise in community spread. We have committed to having weekly COVID Taskforce meetings to analyze benchmark changes, community spread, our ability to staff classrooms, and recommendations from MCDPH. I will host another **live community meeting on Thursday, November 19th** to discuss benchmarks, data, and Maricopa County recommendations. There remains a possibility that we may still need to quickly pivot to a total virtual learning scenario. As we await new data and guidance, we beg for your continued help.

Our fates are intertwined when it comes to remaining in this hybrid model, but this is where our small size is a large advantage. BBS benefits from our collective efforts to reduce spread in our community. Please continue to wear masks properly and remain socially distant. Please call the office and let us know if your child is experiencing symptoms or if anyone in your family receives a positive COVID-19 test. Please be cautious if you choose to travel or to be around large groups of people. This is a prolonged, arduous struggle to both stay safe and provide your family a sense of normalcy at this time. We, too, try to balance that for your children. We are in this together.

We will continue to communicate and stay connected.

Thank you for your help,

Amanda