# ECHO HORIZON SCHOOL







August 10, 2021 COVID-19 UPDATES

Dear Echo Horizon Community,

I was so hoping that I would be able to retire my title as DOCTOR PROCTER, but it appears that I will need to continue in that role for a bit longer. Fun, fun, fun!

I wanted to take the time to update you on the school's COVID protocols for the 2021-22 school year. For returning families, this won't feel too different from what you became accustomed to last year. For new families, please know that we will cover this at the new family orientation and feel free to ask questions as they come up. We are here to help keep everyone safe and informed.

Once again, we thank you for your partnership with us and your patience during this complex time. Please know that it is our top priority to keep our community healthy and safe while also continuing to offer the joyful engaged learning environment that makes Echo Horizon the best elementary school in the city!

With gratitude from your humble CCOs (Chief Coronavirus Officers),

Peggy Procter, Head of School Saundra Sparks, Chief Financial Officer Tiffany Paulsen, School Nurse

#### **School Hours**

# Monday-Thursday

Carpool 8:10-8:30am Classes 8:30am-3:00pm Dismissal 3:00-3:20pm

## Friday

Carpool 8:10-8:30am Classes 8:30am-2:00pm Dismissal 2:00-2:20pm

## **Morning Care Program**

(sign-ups required) 7:30-8:10am

#### After School Recreation Program

(sign-ups required) Runs until 5:45pm daily



# Pre-arrival health screenings and carpool procedures

- We will continue to require parents to complete the daily prearrival health screening on Magnus Health before coming to school and we will conduct temperature checks upon arrival at school. Faculty/staff will continue to complete the health assessment through the Titan app.
- Pre-K and K students will enter school through Back Gate (on Roberts Ave). Parents will walk in with their students, have their temperatures taken, and walk their children to the Pre-K/K classroom door off the Small Yard, where the children will enter into the care of their teachers. Parents/guardians will not go into the classroom.
- Students in grades 1-6 will be dropped off through carpoolat the front circle of the school.
- Siblings of Pre-K/K students are invited to enter through Back Gate with their younger sibling, unless the parent/guardian prefers to do double duty and drive the older sibling through carpool. Parents may not accompany the siblings to class; the students will enter the building and go to the classroom on their own.
- We ask that any student who has COVID symptoms not come to campus. If your student has symptoms, please contact <u>Nurse Tiffany Paulsen</u> at your earliest convenience. She will advise you on next steps. The student will not be allowed to return until they are authorized to do so by their doctor or our nurse.



## Mask policy

- For the fall, masks will be required on campus, both indoors and out for all students and faculty/staff.
- While we strongly recommend a mask with a clear window to allow better access to language for our DHH students, it is up to each family to choose the mask that they are most comfortable with. Echo Center Director Dr. Renee Lucero will share her recommendations for clear masks in a separate message.



#### **Cohorts**

- Strict cohorting is no longer required, but we will continue to be cautious about the mixing of students and the number of students per classroom.
- We will continue to follow the recommendation to have three feet of social distancing between students as much as possible. Desk shields will continue to be in place in our classrooms.



#### Lunch and recess

- We will continue to keep our outdoor recesses smaller than the norm, with only two grades at recess at a time.
- We will continue to keep our lunches smaller than the norm, with two grades eating at one time--one group in the Auditorium with social distancing and the other group outside at back tables with social distancing.
- We will resume hot lunch service, but it will not be buffet style.
   Instead, there will be single serve portions in individual containers. More information will follow next week about this option.



## **Testing**

- We require a negative PCR COVID test for students to return to classes on August 24. This test must be taken between August 16-21 and sent to the school by August 21. Failure to do so will result in not being able to return to school on the 24th.
- We are researching periodic biweekly testing for unvaccinated individuals/our students on campus, and will be back in touch once we have made a decision and have details.



# Isolation and quarantine

- We will continue to be vigilant with regards to symptoms, isolation, and contact.
- As we noted above, students who have COVID symptoms will not be allowed on campus until they are authorized to return by their doctor or our nurse. If your student has symptoms, please contact <u>Nurse Tiffany Paulsen</u> at your earliest convenience.
- If your child has symptoms that start during the school day, they will be sent to the nurse's office immediately for isolation and you will be asked to pick them up within 30 minutes.



• The rules for quarantine have changed and the timeframe has shortened. If you are the close contact of someone with a confirmed case of COVID, you will be asked to take a test on Day 5. If the test on Day 5 is negative, you will be allowed to return to school on Day 7.



# On-campus events/visitor policy

- We will continue to minimize the number of adults and visitors on campus.
- That said, we will carefully resume some in-person events for our parents/guardians and our prospective families, so please review the Tuesday Bulletin and calendar carefully to confirm whether an event is virtual or in-person.
- For in-person events, we ask that all parents/guardians follow
  the guidelines set by the event organizer, which may include
  but are not limited to mask requirement, proof of vaccination,
  health screening and temperature check, and social
  distancing. We truly look forward to gathering again in
  person, but must do so with caution and in compliance with
  the rules set by the school. We thank you in advance for your
  cooperation.
- We will likely consider in-person gathering for only those events with small attendance.

### **NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION?**

## COVID COMPLIANCE TEAM



Tiffany Paulsen School Nurse tpaulsen@echohorizon.org



Peggy Procter

Head of School

pprocter@echohorizon.org



Saundra Sparks
Chief Financial Officer
ssparks@echohorizon.org

