IN PERSON SCHOOL DECISION

Dear Parents,

With positive COVID cases on the rise, we have gotten questions about the decision to come back to school fully in person. At this time, Milwaukee Academy of Science is not allowed by Wisconsin’s Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to offer a virtual option--because we are not a virtual school. Last year, exceptions were made, but right now those exceptions are not in place.

With the increase in COVID cases, DPI may change course and allow schools like MAS to offer a virtual component like last year. We are monitoring the situation closely. Until then, we will move forward with our in-person academic program and utilize all strategies that we have learned over the last year and a half to keep our staff and students safe.

We will continue mask wearing for all staff and students indoors (vaccinated and unvaccinated), social distancing as much as possible, proactive health monitoring, and other COVID protocols to quarantine students who test positive.

- Everyone entering the building will be required to wear masks.
- Random temperature checks will be done each day.
- Whenever possible, children will be spaced three feet apart, paying particular attention to the spacing of children during lunch.
- Visitors to the building will remain limited.
- We ask that parents continue to monitor their children for symptoms at home, keep sick children at home and get children tested when applicable.
- Shared spaces, classrooms, bathrooms and hallways will be disinfected regularly throughout the day and after school.

We will be monitoring the situation carefully and making changes to our programming if needed and if possible. We will inform families if and when a hybrid program becomes an option.

We also encourage all individuals 12 years and older to get their COVID vaccine in order to be fully immunized before we return to school. As the pandemic continues, we believe this is an important step to decrease the spread of the virus in our community.

If you have concerns about in person school due to your child or household member having a chronic illness, please submit your information to Tierra Williams, Family Engagement Coordinator at twilliams@mascience.org so that we are aware of your situation.

In Partnership,

Anthony McHenry