

Fall 2021 – 2022 COVID-19 Policy

Dear CMS Families,

In an ongoing effort to provide a safe and nurturing environment for your child(ren) and for our staff, the CMS Board of Trustees along with faculty & staff have continued to monitor and discuss the COVID policies and recommendations from the Ohio Department of Health, the Stark County & Canton City Health Departments, the Ohio Department of Education, the American Academy of Pediatrics and our own COVID count.

Attached please find the latest quarantine guidelines from the Ohio Department of Health should a COVID positive case be identified in the classroom setting.

Based upon current recommendations and extensive discussions, and in an effort to remain open in-person while minimizing our risk of a quarantine that would shut down one or more environments like we experienced the last 2 days of summer camp, the CMS Board of Trustees voted to update CMS' COVID Policy to include the following:

- Staff will be required to wear a mask while indoors, while in the presence of students whenever possible, regardless of vaccination status.
- Students in the CMS **Preprimary (age 3y.o. – Kindergarten) – Elementary (grades 1st – 6th) Environments** will be required to wear a mask while indoors whenever possible, regardless of vaccination status. Students will be encouraged and monitored but we understand the possibility of non-compliance at times. Grace will be shared, and mask breaks will be offered.
- Social distancing will be practiced to the best of our ability.
- Frequent hand washing/hand sanitizing will be practiced.
- Increased sanitation measures will be applied at both locations.
- We will continue to limit the number of adult guests into both locations.

This policy will go into effect on Monday, 8/30/21.

We will continue to monitor this situation closely and will review the CMS COVID Policy and our county transmission level monthly at the CMS Board of Trustees meeting. You will be notified should a revision be made.

As usual, the best way to slow the spread of any illness/disease is to keep your child(ren) home when they are demonstrating symptoms of becoming ill.

We respectfully request your partnership with educating your child(ren) on the importance of indoor mask wearing so we can continue to provide in-person quality Montessori education. As masking may be new to your child(ren), we encourage you to practice mask wearing with your child over the weekend.

The child is both a hope and a promise for mankind. Dr. Maria Montessori