

November 19, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the holidays approach, practicing proven COVID-19 prevention measures remains vital to slowing the spread of illness in our community. Coconino County remains in a high level of community transmission, underscoring the need for continued vigilance. We appreciate your ongoing cooperation and support to maintain in-person education, student development, and your efforts to limit the transmission of COVID-19.

Holiday traditions are important for families and children. There are several ways to enjoy holiday traditions and protect your health. Recommendations are included below:

- Because many generations tend to gather to celebrate holidays, the best way to minimize COVID-19 risk and keep your family and friends safer is to get vaccinated if you're eligible.
  Protect those not yet eligible for vaccination, such as young children, by getting yourself and other eligible people around them vaccinated.
- Wear well-fitting masks over your nose and mouth if you are in public indoor settings if you are not fully vaccinated. Even those who are fully vaccinated should wear a mask in public indoor settings in communities with substantial to high transmission.
- Remember, outdoors is safer than indoors. Avoid crowded, poorly ventilated indoor spaces.
- Get <u>tested</u> if you have symptoms of COVID-19 or have a close contact with someone who has COVID-19. There are several locations offering free COVID-19 testing, and many pharmacies are offering low-cost rapid tests. Visit <u>www.coconino.az.gov/2338/Testing-Information</u> for locations.
- If you are considering traveling for a holiday or event, visit CDC's <u>Travel</u> page to help you decide what is best for you and your family. CDC still recommends delaying travel until you are <u>fully</u> <u>vaccinated</u>. Keep in mind that COVID-19 requirements may vary in different jurisdictions.
- If you are sick or have symptoms, don't host or attend a gathering.

Our teams remain available for continued support to you. Please continue to reach out to our School Liaison Erica Shaw <u>eshaw@coconino.az.gov</u> with questions or requests for support.

Sincerely,

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