

2021/2022

Updated July 30, 2021

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Dear CEE Families,

Since March 2020, the COVID -19 pandemic has posed unprecedented challenges to our nation, state, cities, and our CEE school community. We have been forced to re-evaluate and make changes to our operational and educational practices on an ongoing basis.

Countless hours have been spent collaborating with teachers, staff members, parents, health professionals and community leaders utilizing scientific research, medical and public health research and guidelines from local and national agencies (Center for Disease Control, Arizona Department of Health Services, Maricopa County Health, Arizona Department of Education, Arizona State Board for Charter Schools, American Academy of Pediatrics) to build a comprehensive mitigation plan.

The safety of our students, faculty and families remains our number one priority. The expectations for the upcoming school year have been devised to help mitigate risks from COVID-19.

We are excited to begin in person instruction and learning on Wednesday, August 4th. Schedules are being created that will allow for the required reduction of density and restriction of mobility. Detailed health, hygiene and physical distancing protocols have been formulated.

Section 15-342.05 of the Arizona Revised Statues has been amended to state "Notwithstanding any other law or order, a county, city, town, school district Governing Board or Charter School Governing Body may not require the use of face coverings by students or staff during school hours and on school property." We encourage each family to participate in the use of face coverings in the manner which they feel most comfortable.

Due to the changing conditions of this global pandemic and when in-person learning is not a feasible option, CEE has a contingency plan prepared to transition to remote learning using the Google classroom platform. Our teachers will offer daily, engaging, structured, virtual lessons with attendance accountability and individual assessments and feedback from teachers.

As we continue to work as a "TEAM" to support our student's academic achievement, intellectual and emotional growth, surrounded by an encouraging school culture, we can be optimistic that our students, faculty and families will be coming "home" to a safe and positive learning environment.

I would like to thank our CEE community for your patience, perseverance, and resiliency as we navigate this journey together.

Fondly, Mrs. Cochran



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Student Support

CEE'S superior TEAM of teachers are diligently planning the 2021-2022 school year ensuring that our students start with strong relationships, routines, attention to health and hygiene, and academic expectations. We will continue to support the development and implementation of a competency-based learning system whether it be in person or remotely.

We are prepared to transition from onsite learning to remote learning as it may become mandated from our public health officials.

Within the first three weeks students will be assessed in math, reading, and writing. Teachers will use vertical formulations of standards to identify areas to strengthen and support.

Teachers and staff are aware that there might be student learning gaps. Remediation will occur before new content is taught to help refresh the memory and build new skills on prior knowledge for those students that require it.

We also anticipate that some students will have accelerated their skills and their academic needs will be sustained as well.

Special Education:

With CEE returning to in-person learning, all special education services will resume the normal process. The special education department is currently developing guidelines to support students based on the various groups and needs within special education.

Families will work with their school level team to problem solve individual concerns.

Technology

All students will have access to devices on campus or when in remote learning.

Social- Emotional Learning:

We are focused on supporting a positive school environment.

The emotional wellbeing of our families, staff and students is a top priority. The following are some resources that may be useful. <u>Crisis Response Network</u>, <u>Arizona's crisis Response Network</u>. Our staff is undergoing training on identifying the indicators that signal students are suffering from anxiety, depression or lack of coping strategies.

Our student success coach has been attending Arizona Department of Education. sponsored resilience and social-emotional learning workshops for school leaders and educators to prepare for any challenges our students may encounter. She will be sharing this information with staff and teachers. She will also be coaching us on how to. develop a relationship-based approach to teaching and learning that inspires transformation through compassion, humor, and deep listening. Her passion to motivate our students through Growth Mindset strategies will continue to be a focus with her classes. Middles school students will be introduced to the 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens, by Stephen Covey.

Health and Safety Screening Measures

Daily screening begins at home. Please keep your child home and **inform** the school office if your child has had the following symptoms within 24 hours:

Fever 100.4 +/chills Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing Fatigue Sore throat New loss of taste or smell

Headache Diarrhea Muscle pain

Cough Vomiting Congestion/runny nose

COVID-19 Like Illness Guidance

Health and Temperature Screening

- School staff and visitors will complete at-home symptom screening attestations daily.
- School staff will complete trainings in health and safety protocols.
- Students will be met by their teachers at arrival. The teacher will perform a health check. Hand sanitizer will be administered before entering the building/ classroom.
- All students and staff will pass by our infrared thermal camera for a temperature reading. Our camera can assess up to 20 people entering the building at one time. The camera is connected to a computer that shows real-time temperatures of each person.
- Should a person have a temperature over the recommended 100.4 degrees, their picture is captured and a discreet alarm alerts staff so they can confirm the temperature with a second infrared thermometer.
- CEE staff will continuously monitor all students for signs and symptoms throughout the day.
- Any student or staff with illness symptoms or a 100.4 degree temperature will be taken to a designated isolation area until they may exit the building safely.
- Hand sanitizer will be available for persons entering the school lobby.
- All visitors, including parents/guardians, will not be permitted beyond the school's front lobby at this time. Special circumstances will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Health and Safety Measures

Physical Distancing

- Physical distancing, sometimes referred to as social distancing, is simply the act of keeping people separated with the goal of limiting spread of contagion between individuals. Limiting the physical interactions of students is one way to mitigate exposure to infectious disease.
- CEE will maintain physical distancing wherever possible.
 When feasible, this includes implementing the CDC guidelines of 3 feet of distance in indoor settings.

Gatherings, Field Trips

- At this time CEE will limit the gatherings of large groups or meetings. Smaller size meetings will promote physical distancing of at least 3 feet between people.
- We will pursue virtual experiences for field trips, town meetings, and large group assemblies as needed.

Classroom Distancing:

Small class sizes:

CEE boasts small class sizes within our available classroom spaces.

Cohort:

A cohort is defined as a group of students who participate in a class or other activity. Our goal is to minimize the number of cohorts any one student participates in during the day. Our school is designed with this strategy in place.

Elementary Cohorts: Our students move together as a class throughout the **entire** day. Some students might be a part of a second cohort if they receive other support.

Middle School Cohort: Students in secondary grades will participate in 2-3 cohorts in one day.

Health and Safety Measures

Classroom Spaces:

- Classroom furniture will be arranged to maximize physical distancing as much as possible.
- Spacing of desks will increase and students' work spaces will be individually assigned.
- As needed, physical barriers will be used when students and teachers work in close proximity to one another. (speech, occupational therapies, small group instruction).

Arrival and Drop off protocols:

- Parents, please follow state and local guidelines for social distancing in front of the school.
- Students only are permitted on sidewalks during drop off and pick up.

Staggered start times:

- Middle School 8:00 (doors open at 7:55)
- Elementary K-5 8:30 (doors open at 8:20)

Dismissal and Pick Up Protocols: *Middle school* – Pick up @ 3:00 at the circle (1:00 on Wednesday). · Students will be in line by their homeroom cohorts. If there is a younger sibling or carpool member, where pick-up times are different, please contact the school and we will help accommodate your needs. Elementary - 2nd-5th grades Pick up @ 3:30 (1:15 on Wednesday) Students will be lined up by classes outside of courtyard. **K-1st grade -** Pick up @ 3:15 (1:15 on Wednesday) • Students will be in courtyard by cohort. Cafeterias: Students eat lunch with their cohort. Additional seating has been added. Lunchtime schedules have been staggered to accommodate physical distancing protocols. Classes are able to rotate in/out one class at a time utilizing separate entrances and exits to reduce congestion. This will also enable the staff to increase cleaning and disinfecting between classes.

Health and Safety Measures

Hallways:

• In order to assure physical distancing in the hallways, class periods are staggered so that movement is by cohorts.

Recess/playgrounds:

- Outdoor transmission of virus is known to be much lower than indoor transmission.
- Students will be kept in their classroom cohorts.
- Cohorts will be limited in numbers while outdoors to allow for maximum use of our space while practicing physical distancing.
- Students are allowed to use and share frequently disinfected playground equipment with their cohorts.

Art, Library, Music and Physical Education Classrooms:

- Students participate in their cohorts.
- Physical distancing protocols will be followed.
- Outdoor space will be utilized when possible.

Proper, diligent, disciplined hygiene at home and at school is a necessity. Frequent cleaning and disinfecting of highly touched surfaces, feasible physical distancing and face covering use, along with consistent health checks will be the key to keeping a safe and healthy environment for everyone.

- Signage promoting everyday preventative measures will be in highly visible locations around the school.
- Staff, students and families will have the opportunity to be informed and trained in behaviors that reduce the spread of infections. <u>CDC</u>: <u>How to Protect Yourself &</u> Others
- It is critical that staff models the protective measures on a daily basis and reminds students of proper hygiene protocols

Hygiene Measures

- · Hand washing as a modality of containment is vital.
- Consistent scheduled times and procedures will be established throughout the day for hand hygiene and the promotion of hand washing.
- Students and staff are encouraged to wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds as often as possible throughout the day.
- Additional hand washing sinks have been added on campus along with hands free soap dispensers.
- It is a requirement that hands must be washed with soap and water after restroom use, before eating lunch and snacks, and after coming in contact with bodily fluids. (sneezing, coughing, blowing one's nose)
- Staff and students will be encouraged to sneeze or cough into their elbow or a tissue.
- When soap and water is not readily available, hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol will be used.
- Hands must be sanitized:
 - · when entering and exiting campus and all classrooms
 - before and after playground use
 - during school hours as required
- Teachers will be monitoring hand sanitizer use
 - CEE will provide all supplies
 - NO scented personal hand sanitizers are permitted on campus.
- Gloves are required for Nutrition Services employees, health attendants, and teachers and staff while cleaning and disinfecting items and surfaces.

Face Coverings:

Section 15-342.05 of the Arizona Revised Statues has been amended to state "Notwithstanding any other law or order, a county, city, town, school district Governing Board or Charter School Governing Body may not require the use of face coverings by students or staff during school hours and on school property." We encourage each family to participate in the use of face coverings in the manner which they feel most comfortable.

Other exceptions from CDC guidance: actively eating or drinking, during strenuous exercise, or outside in playground settings.

Any student who has difficulty breathing or who is incapable of physically removing the face covering on his/her own will not wear cloth face coverings, and alternate methods of protection will be discussed by parents and staff. Additionally, students that have a reason pursuant to a 504 Plan or IEP to not wear face coverings will be evaluated on an individual basis to determine whether there are additional accommodations that may be made to provide them with the greatest possible protection.

Face Covering Protocols:

- Families, staff and students must be knowledgeable on the proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings. <u>CDC: How to Wear a Face Covering</u> & <u>CDC: How to Wash a Face Covering</u>
- Students will be encouraged to not touch their eyes, noses, or mouths when
 putting on or removing their face coverings. Their hands will be sanitized each
 time.
- We have purchased small transparent wax paper bags for individual face covering storage at school to mitigate the spreading of germs to other surfaces. CEE will provide the bags weekly or as needed.

Face Coverings:

- Should they choose to use them, students and staff must provide their own face coverings
 - disposable and/or plain colored/patterned cotton masks are allowed.
 - · NO messaging or silly/scary graphics will be tolerated.
 - CEE will have disposable face coverings available if needed.
 - Please contact school office if you will need assistance providing your child with a face covering.

Cleaning and Disinfection

- We are increasing the amount of routine (daily) and nightly cleaning and disinfecting on our campus
- Professional commercial cleaning service nightly
- Use of electro static disinfecting equipment for playground, PE equipment, musical instruments, and large surface areas
- All disinfecting products used on our campus are EPA List N approved along with ADHS approved bleach solution
- Gloves are available for staff performing disinfecting practices

CDC Definitions:

Cleaning refers to the removal of dirt and impurities, including germs, from surfaces. Cleaning alone does not kill germs. But by removing the germs, it decreases their number and therefore any risk of spreading infection. Cleaning with soap and water decreases the viral load and optimizes the efficacy of disinfectants.

Disinfecting works by using chemicals, for example EPA-registered disinfectants, to kill germs on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs. But killing germs remaining on a surface after cleaning further reduces any risk of spreading infection.

- Classrooms will be equipped with soap and water solutions along with disinfectant that is deemed safe for humans and the environment.
 - All staff will be properly trained in the protocols for using cleaning solutions
- Students will be furnished with a caddy that will house their own essential supplies from donations. Supplies will be replenished as needed.
- Students and staff will limit the sharing of all educational supplies, devices, toys, books and other learning aides.
- Frequent hand sanitizing or hand washing will be performed after the use of shared items in the classrooms.
- Shared equipment including computer equipment, keyboards, art supplies, musical instruments, and playground and P.E. equipment will be disinfected regularly.
- Restrooms, along with high touch areas around the school building will receive frequent cleaning and disinfecting throughout the day.
- Drinking fountains are closed at this time. Additional touchless bottle
 fillers are available for students to refill their water bottles anytime during
 the day.

Ventilation

- Outdoor air is continuously circulated through our HVAC units that are equipped with additional OSA fans.
- Each classroom/space is equipped with an individual HVAC unit.
- Outdoor spaces are available for frequent use by classes.

Incident Response

- CEE receives guidance for the reporting of any infectious disease including COVID-19 from both the Arizona Department of Health Services and Maricopa County Department of Health. For confirmed cases of COVID-19 on campus, we will notify the authorities, staff, and students' families who may have had close contact while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines.
- We will follow their guidance for our course of action on a case-by-case basis.
- Staff and families should notify school officials if they or their children have become sick with COVID-19 symptoms, test positive for COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 symptoms or a confirmed or suspected case in their home. Please refer to the Quarantine Guidance set forth by the <u>Arizona Department of Heath</u>, and the <u>Maricopa Department of Public</u> Health.
- If a staff member or student becomes ill while at school with COVID-19 symptoms (such as fever, cough or shortness of breath) the parent/guardian/ emergency contact will be immediately notified. Specific isolation protocol will be followed until they can safely leave the building.
- Cleaning and disinfecting will begin immediately in the areas that the sick person had utilized.
- Persons who have contracted COVID-19 will not be permitted back on campus until they have met the criteria to discontinue home isolation and quarantine guidelines according to the <u>Arizona Department of Health</u> and <u>Maricopa</u> <u>Department of Public Health</u> guidelines.
 - Students that are absent due to illness will receive school work to complete at home.

Contingency Plan

Governor's Stay at Home in effect: Schools closed:

Students are learning from home.

Students participate in a deliberate, effective remote learning program.

Teachers and staff will have professional training in a variety of online tools for delivering engaging and meaningful curriculum content.

Distance learning platform will be: Google Classroom.

Students and parents will have the opportunity for training in the Google Classroom platform.

5-day student week

Structured daily/weekly schedule of lessons

Teachers deliver instruction virtually from their classrooms when feasible.

Live video instruction with direct teacher contact will occur every day.

Ability to offer whole group, small group and individualized instruction at student's levels.

Special Education populations and students who fall under the ADA will receive free support services and interventions in school classrooms. This will include teacher-led or para-professional support for students with distance learning instruction.

Students for whom home learning is not an option will be provided an open space on CEE's campus to access remote learning.

Accountability

Attendance is required and is monitored.

Assignments and assessments will be graded.

Frequent feedback given to ensure student's mastery of skills.

Technology Accessibility

All students will have the opportunity to access technology devices to participate in remote learning whether on campus or off-campus.

Procedures are in place for checking out devices from CEE.

Parents/guardians will required to sign a technology waiver.