



SOUTHGATE ACADEMY

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December 1, 2020

Dear Southgate Academy Community,

The safety and well-being of our students and our employees is our top priority. We are keenly aware that positive COVID-19 cases are on the rise in our community and the metrics continue to trend in the wrong direction.

We are staying vigilant with our mitigation strategies and they are working. We are in communication daily with state and local health officials as we navigate each positive case. We are following their direction and guidance in every instance.

When examining our COVID-19 positive case data, we are finding that the majority of the active cases we have are linked to choices made by individuals (students and employees) that do not follow what we know minimizes the spread. We are learning that potential transmissions are not happening at school but rather as a result of off-campus activities where mitigation strategies or preventative measures were not followed. We are also learning how important it is that we continue to enforce the wearing of a properly fitting face covering.

Please know we are closely monitoring the Arizona Health Department Services and the Pima County Health Department data dashboard for current recommendations of instructional models at our school campus. Southgate Academy would consider return to remote learning if recommended by the state and local officials. if it is necessary.

It is vital that we as a community stay vigilant by following essential mitigation strategies to help our school community stay healthy.

Please remember to do your part by staying home if you:

- **are not well and are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or**
- **are awaiting COVID-19 test results, or**
- **have received a positive COVID-19 test result**

Thank you for all you are doing to help keep our schools healthy as we work together to navigate this unique school year.

Southgate Academy
District Administration

COVID-19 School Benchmarks

By Arizona County

The following are public health recommendations to guide school administration on which learning model could be implemented for their school based on community spread within their county.

The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) recommends county-specific public health benchmarks fall in the **moderate** or **minimal** category in all three benchmarks for two weeks in order to provide Hybrid learning. The [ADHS Schools Toolkit](#) further defines community spread levels and delivery models outlined below.

School reopening plans should encompass four scenarios:

- Traditional/in-person - All students in physical buildings
- Hybrid - Some students in physical buildings and some students distance learning
- Virtual - All students distance learning with onsite support services
- Intermittent - Intermittent distance learning based on emergency closures as defined by state and local health departments

County	Recommended School Delivery Model
Apache	Hybrid
Cochise	Hybrid
Coconino	Hybrid
Gila	Hybrid
Graham	Hybrid
Greenlee	Hybrid
La Paz	Hybrid
Maricopa	Hybrid
Mohave	Hybrid
Navajo	Hybrid
Pima	Hybrid
Pinal	Hybrid
Santa Cruz	Hybrid
Yavapai	Hybrid
Yuma	Hybrid

For additional information & the schools dashboard, visit azhealth.gov/schoolsCOVID19.

Updated: 11/26/2020