

March 9, 2021

Superintendent's Report





From Our Schools



CDO senior and IB Diploma Programme student, Jojo Taylor, is one of Junior Achievement of Arizona's 2021 '18 Under 18.' She shows exemplary achievement in: Entrepreneurial Spirit, Leadership, Making the Community Better and Extraordinary Skillset.



Audrey Alameda from Innovation Academy was recognized by Oro Valley in their Spotlight on Youth program for academic achievement and community involvement. She is a member of Student Council and NEHS. Audrey was very involved with Innovation Academy's cereal drive this year. She has also been recognized as an 'Inspired Young Researcher.'

From Our Schools

I ❤️ MY
AMPHI SOCIAL
WORKER!

#SchoolSocialWorkerWeek



This is week National School Social Work Week. This year's theme for National School Social Work Week is Beacon of Hope: School Social Workers Lighting the Way. We celebrate Amphitheater's social workers and thank them for their service to students.





Thank you

Schools throughout the District got great news over the past couple of weeks. The Amphi Foundation announced their Spring funding awards, putting \$106,746 directly back into our Amphi schools via 39 projects at 18 schools in the Amphi district!

The Foundation has also been hard at work raising money to support our schools in the future with their 'All In for Education' campaign. You can help support this drive by making a donation at www.amphifoundation.org.





From Our Schools



The Amphi Foundation partnered with Lettuce Grow to provide every school in the District with a tower garden and credit to order seedlings. They began arriving at schools in the past couple of weeks.





Gubernatorial Order 2021-04

- Citing Updated CDC Guidance
- Mandates new community transmission categories/metrics (AZDHS)
- Sets basic requirement for in-person learning (either hybrid or full)
- Nature varies based upon transmission level and grade level(s)
- Mandates return to “in-person” for all schools by March 15, 2021 or Monday following district spring breaks (if applicable)
- Low, Moderate and Substantial Transmission Categories:
 - In-Person Learning mandated for all grades, with option for virtual learning
 - Substantial Transmission: Middle and High Schools may reduce attendance



Information from Public Health

Received from PCHD on March 4, 2021



New School Guidance -- AZDHS

Pima County Stats

- Case Rate- Substantial
- % Positivity- Low

Transmission Level- Substantial



COVID-19 School Benchmarks

Community Transmission By Arizona County

This guidance outlines recommendations for K-12 schools to prepare for and respond to community spread of COVID-19 based on CDC's K-12 [Operational Strategy](#) and [Indicators for Dynamic School Decision Making](#), and Arizona Department of Education's [Roadmap to Reopening Schools](#). LEAs are encouraged to continue to partner with their [local health department](#).

County	Case Rate	% Positivity	Transmission Level
Apache	Substantial	Low	Substantial
Cochise	Substantial	Moderate	Substantial
Coconino	High	Low	High
Gila	Substantial	Moderate	Substantial
Graham	Moderate	Low	Moderate
Greenlee	Substantial	Moderate	Substantial
La Paz	Substantial	Low	Substantial
Maricopa	Substantial	Moderate	Substantial
Mohave	Substantial	Substantial	Substantial
Navajo	High	Low	High
Pima	Substantial	Low	Substantial
Pinal	High	Moderate	High
Santa Cruz	Moderate	Low	Moderate
Yavapai	Substantial	Moderate	Substantial
Yuma	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

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

Updated: 3/3/2021



New School Guidance -- AZDHS

COVID-19 School Benchmarks

Indicators & Learning Delivery Recommendations

Community Transmission to Reflect Level of Community Risk

The first step in determining when and how to safely reopen schools involves assessing community transmission of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. CDC recommends the use of two measures of community burden to determine the level of community transmission. These measures are used to assess the incidence and spread of COVID-19 in the community, not the school itself. Risk is dependent on community level transmission and implementation of school and community mitigation strategies.

Indicator	Low Transmission	Moderate Transmission	Substantial Transmission	High Transmission
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the last 7 days	0 - 9	10 - 49	50 - 99	≥ 100
Percentage of nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs) that are positive during the past 7 days	<5.0%	5.0% - 7.9%	8.0% - 9.9%	≥ 10.0%

Recommended Implementation of Mitigation Strategies and K-12 School Learning Modes by Level of Community Transmission

Low Transmission	Moderate Transmission	Substantial Transmission	High Transmission
K-12 schools open for full in-person instruction		Elementary schools in hybrid learning mode or reduced attendance Middle and high schools in hybrid learning mode or reduced attendance	Middle and high schools in virtual instruction unless they can strictly implement all mitigation strategies and have few cases. Schools that are already open for in-person instruction with successfully implemented mitigation strategies can remain open, but only if they continue to strictly implement mitigation strategies and have few cases

For detailed mitigation strategies and remarks see the K-12 School Guidance for COVID-19.

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

Updated: 3/3/2021



Amphi Reopening for “In-Person Learning”

- Plan for March 22 Start Continuing Forward
 - Gubernatorial Order now compelling In-Person Instruction
 - Pima County Health Department support for return to school
 - Improving Pima County health metrics and transmission rates
 - Improving contact tracing and case investigation
 - **Low rates of transmission throughout Pima County schools and especially ours**
 - Multiple and layered mitigation strategies: masks, physical distancing to the greatest extent possible, enhanced and CDC compliant ventilation practices; hand washing/hygiene practices, and cleaning and disinfecting protocols.
 - Testing as in-school mitigation measure
 - Decreasing quarantine/isolation events
 - Substantial and increasing vaccination levels
 - Input from staff



Staff Input

- Solicited from all employees
- Input from all sites and departments
- Primary concerns and suggestions:
 - Worries regarding public health readiness and capacity for “six foot” distancing
 - Preparation time required for full in-person resumption after so long (1 year)
 - One size approach for those choosing virtual instruction inappropriate; site/educator discretion urged
 - Previous frequency of quarantining
 - Maximum compliance with other mitigation measures: ventilation, site access control; cleaning and sanitation
 - Spring Break mitigation compliance



Current Survey Results



Reopening Survey

Reopening: We sent our families with children enrolled in brick-and-mortar schools an email with a link to a survey asking them to choose In-Person Learning or a Virtual Alternative. The Virtual Alternative will be defined at the site level and will depend on how many students at a particular school in a particular class request it.

6,609 → Responses

94% → In-Person Learning

6% → Virtual Alternative

Note: At schools with lower response rates, principals and staff called parents individually to collect their information.



Vaccine Survey

The Human Resources Department surveyed staff for an update on vaccinations. The survey was sent to 1,487 employees. Employees who indicated on the previous survey that they did not want to receive the vaccine were not included in the update.

683 → Two doses

191 → One dose (187 scheduled for 2nd)

22 → Scheduled for one dose

135 → Submitted to Pima County Health
for appointments



Vaccine Availability

- HR supporting employees with access
- Expanding opportunities
 - Pima County -- multiple sites
 - Banner-North at Cancer Center (Pfizer and Moderna) Drive-through (3838 N Campbell Ave, BLDG 2) (Closing March 4 and consolidating with Banner South)
 - Banner-South Kino Stadium (Moderna only) Drive-through (2500 E. Ajo Way)
 - Tucson Medical Center (Pfizer and Moderna) Drive-through (Lot 29, 2597 N. Wyatt Dr.)
 - Tucson Convention Center (Moderna only) Walk-through (260 S. Church Ave.)
 - Private Provider Locations – now opening
 - Walgreens (Johnson and Johnson only) – more info due soon



Vaccine Efficacy

- 1st dose is highly effective; protects from hospitalization & death 60-90%
 - %'s vary depending on brand
- 2nd dose protects 95% and can be taken as far out as 6 weeks from first dose
 - Recommended 2nd dose by 25 days for Pfizer
 - Recommended 2nd dose by 28 days for Moderna
- Johnson & Johnson 1 dose protects:
 - 66% mild/moderate symptoms
 - 85-86% severe/death

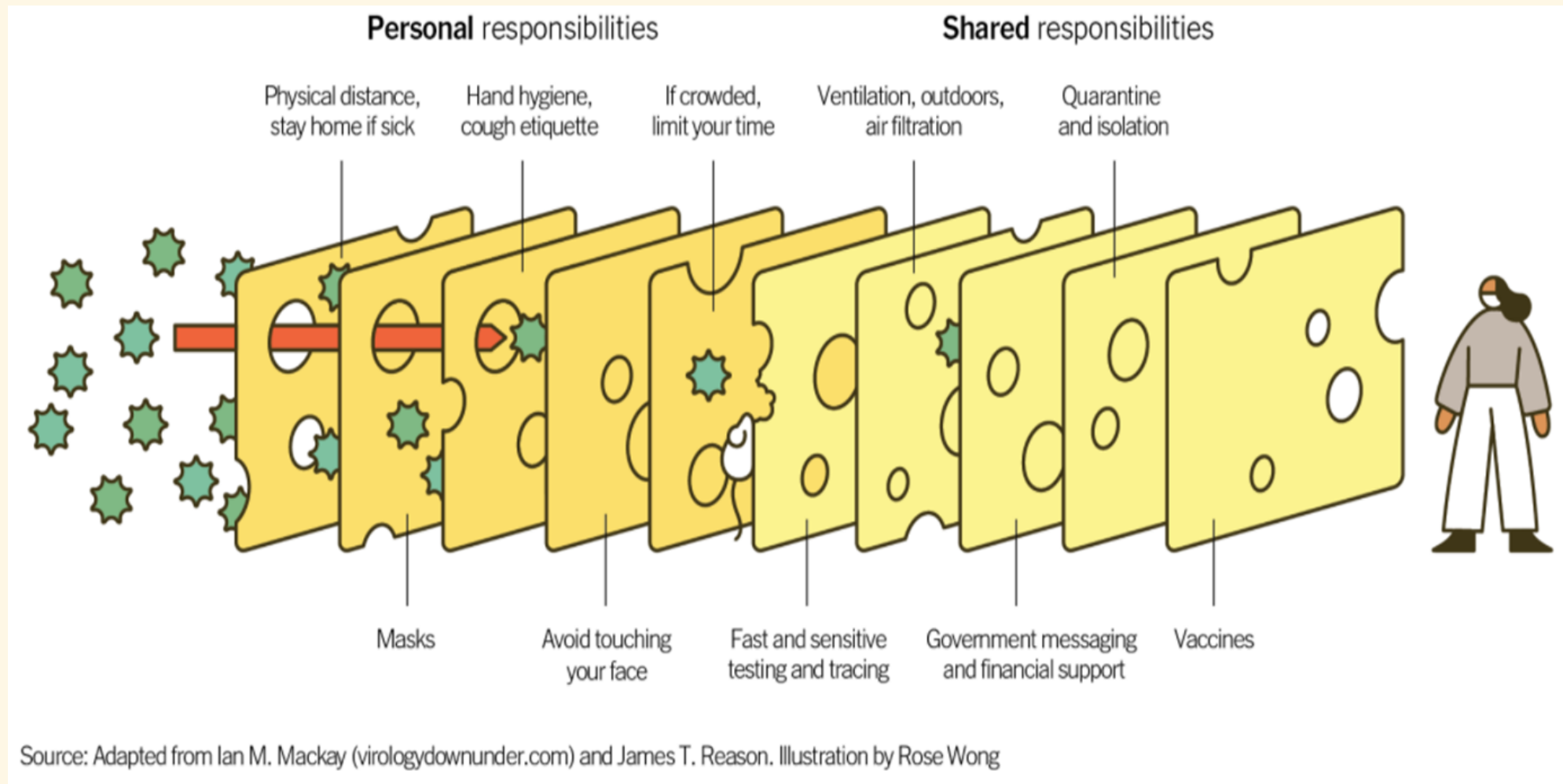


Testing as Mitigation

- Amphi selected for in-school testing (partnership with PCHD/AZDHS/ASU):
 - on-site symptomatic students and staff
 - perhaps regular testing of staff/teachers
 - BinaxNOW antigen test with results in 15 minutes
 - Our staff now trained to conduct the test on school campus
 - Consent process for student testing TBD
- ON-GOING: Regular testing of staff/teachers
 - Saliva PCR testing specifically for educators through a partnership between AZDHS and ASU Biodesign Institute (every Saturday at PCC North)
 - Access code from administration (see communications)



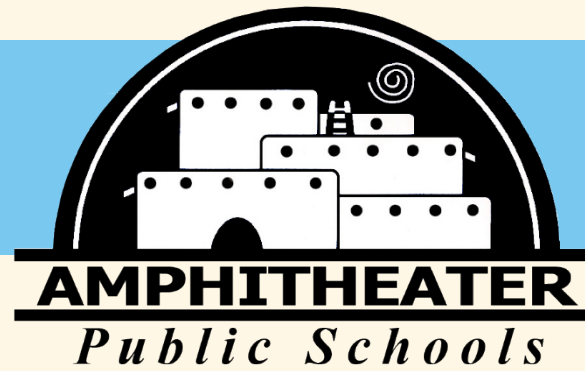
The Importance of Mitigation Layering





The Importance of Personal Responsibility

- Historically: holidays and breaks followed by community transmission increases
- Spring Break: concerns raised regarding behaviors already (college)
- Vast majority of spread among school age populations attributed to social gatherings, family events, athletic events
- **THE ASK:** Please help us open and stay open; follow CDC guidelines in personal, private practice



Enjoy Spring Break and return safely!
We cannot wait to see you!

