



Subject: KMS Community Update 2-5-21

Dear Khalsa Community,

Arizona's public health vaccination drive is underway. Arizona Department of Health Services has a vaccine phased prioritization plan. There are three phases. Phase 1 includes three groups: A, B, and C. Currently, our county is Priority Phase 1-B. This group includes education and childcare workers, law enforcement, protective service workers, and adults 75 and older. Maricopa County is prioritizing adults 75 and older and will move to adults 65 and older in the next Phase 1-B. Attached is a description of the current plan for Arizona.

Khalsa Montessori School's commitment to in-person learning continues. The staff continues to schedule their vaccine appointments and we intend that all will be fully vaccinated this spring. Child vaccines will not be available until 2022, if not later. These vaccines are still in development. Our experience this year is that adults are more easily infected. Children can be infected and are not the primary source of infection. Cases are trending downward and Maricopa County's diagnostic tests have a positive rate of 15.3%. This is an improvement from January's high of 24% positive rate of COVID-19 infection.

We will continue our safety protocols that mitigate the risks of COVID-19. In-person learning while constrained by these extra measures has been successful. It is a joy to see the students working together in their classrooms both inside and out. Staff is developing unique projects to utilize outdoor spaces and create natural beauty.

Thank you for your continued support of our school.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Karen Paxton', is positioned below the 'Sincerely,' text.

Karen Paxton

School Director