



November 19, 2020

Dear Families,

We're writing to let you know that **Mountain Song Community School will continue in full Remote Learning through the first semester, which ends on December 18th.** We will also continue to offer limited in-person services for students in academic interventions and special education as necessary.

This decision has been made in light of the ongoing spike in COVID-19 spread and related metrics in El Paso County this month, as well as input from staff members and the school's Safety Committee.

The [El Paso County metrics](#) currently show that the 14-day incidence rate is hovering around 1,000 per 100,000 people, which is extremely high. Other metrics related to the virus spread are also very elevated. The current status of El Paso County is at *Level Orange—High Risk* on the [state's dial framework](#). Although the incidence and hospitalization rates far exceed that level, we do not expect the county to be moved into a more restrictive level soon, based on our understanding from political leaders. Therefore, districts and schools, including Mountain Song, are in a position to be making decisions based on our tracking of data and the implications in schools.

While we managed the disruptions due to COVID-19 well in October and early November, it was clear that we could not sustain managing increased disruptions due to required quarantines and isolations. As the incidence of COVID-19 rises in our community, it also rises at Mountain Song. Therefore, we implore our community to stay vigilant and keep practicing and modeling the hygiene, distancing, and masking practices that yield lower virus transmission. These will help us achieve our goal to bring back students to in-person learning as soon as possible.

We want you to know that we are very aware of the incredible stress being in remote learning places on families. Our partner, Innovation Learning, will continue to offer day-care services at the school. Please contact Dan Kurschner, dkurschner@mountainsongschool.com for more information. In addition, our Parent Council has offered to help families buddy up to assist and support one another during this time. If you would like more information about this, please contact Cambria DeVoy at pcchair@mountainsongschool.com.

Thank you for your partnership during this incredibly challenging time.

Be safe and well,

The Executive Leadership Team