



GRIFFIN CHRONICLE



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is so nice to be back to learning, both on campus and virtually. Our teachers are excited to see our students in the halls and classrooms and to engage with them through Zoom! We missed you all greatly over the summer!

As a school, we are constantly looking for ways to give our students and staff a positive, safe, and engaging school experience. This means reaching out for feedback from our school community and using this feedback to constantly improve and meet the needs of our families.

Now that we are closing out our first week of school, I wanted to take a moment to gather feedback from you all. Please let us know how the first week went for you and your children by taking our First Week Family Survey [HERE](#).

We appreciate your patience and support as we navigate this new learning landscape, both virtually and on campus. Together, we are partners in our students' education, health, and wellbeing more than ever before.

Welcome back to learning, we appreciate all you do!

Sincerely,
Mandy Kartchner
Executive Director

IN THIS EDITION

PAGE 1 Message from the Director

PAGE 2 Start of School FAQs

PAGE 3 Middle School & Kindergarten Fees
Zoom Links for Distance Learning

PAGE 4 Meet The Team | First Day of School

PAGE 5 Check-In / Check-out Procedures

PAGE 5 Helping Children Wear Face Coverings

PAGE 8 Tips for supporting your online student

PAGE 9 Upcoming Events

Start of School FAQs

Q. WILL FACE COVERINGS BE REQUIRED?

Athlos Academy of Utah is following the face covering order for schools as advised by national and local health departments. On-campus all students and staff are expected to wear face coverings and practice social distancing while on campus. *You can find the order here.*

We will follow CDC guidelines found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

Q. IS THERE A GUIDE ON THE SCHOOL RE-OPENING PROCEDURES?

We've compiled our distance learning information, re-opening procedures, and resources from the state into a Family Back to Learning Handbook. The handbook can be found on our website by [clicking here](#).

Q. WILL IN-CLASSROOM VOLUNTEERS BE ALLOWED?

At this time, in-classroom volunteers will not be allowed.

Q. WILL STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN DISTANCE LEARNING BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN IN-PERSON EXTRACURRICULARS?

Yes, students participating in distance learning will still have the opportunity to participate in live extracurriculars.

Q. WILL TEMPERATURE CHECKS BE TAKEN INSIDE OR OUTSIDE CLASSROOMS/SCHOOL BUILDING UPON ARRIVAL?

Temperature check screenings will be done each morning before students exit their vehicle. There will be different zones set up. If a student's temperature is above 100.4 degrees, the student will need to return home. If cleared, the students will enter a designated grade-level door and go to their classroom.



Middle School & Kindergarten Fees



MIDDLE SCHOOL

For our on-campus students in grades 7 and 8, middle school fees are about to be due. Fees this year will support learning and will be \$75. These fees are due Friday, August 28, 2020.

You can pay your fees at <https://secureinstantpayments.com/sip/cart/event.php?EID=3290>.

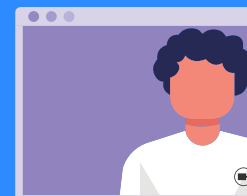
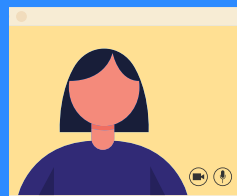
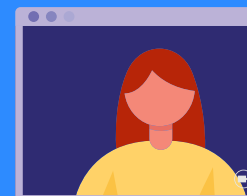
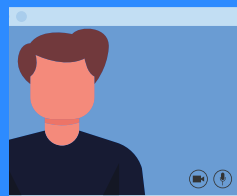
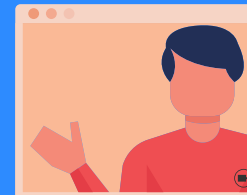
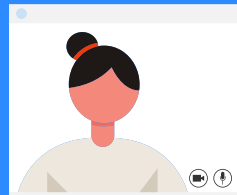


KINDERGARTEN

On-campus extended day kindergarten fees were due on August 5. We still have outstanding payments. Fees are \$275 per month per child and are due on the 5th of each month. You can pay these fees at <https://secureinstantpayments.com/sip/cart/event.php?EID=3290>

Zoom Links for Distance Learning

As a reminder, distance learning students can find their Zoom links in Clever, our learning portal! Have questions? Contact your classroom teacher.

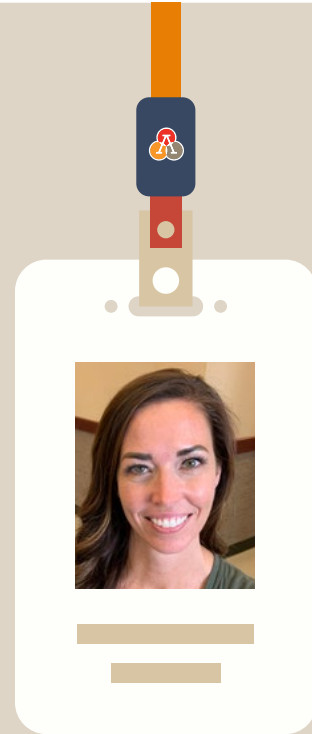


MEET THE TEAM: CAROLYN BASTIAN

Hello there! My name is Carolyn Bastian. My friends call me Care. I am one of the newest members to the Athlos team. You can find me in the front office. I am one of the new secretaries. I am excited to get to know everyone and hope to soon hear "Hi Mlss Care" as I walk through the halls.

I am a mom to five amazing kids and have been married to my sweet husband for 21 years. When I am not at school I am running my kids around to their activities or, if I'm lucky, you will find me hiking in the mountains. The mountains are my happy place. There is something about the trees and the wildflowers that just make my heart happy. Throw in a waterfall and I'm in heaven.

My favorite Athlos Performance Character trait is optimism. I believe that even on the rough days you can find something good. And if it's a REALLY rough day there are always cookies!



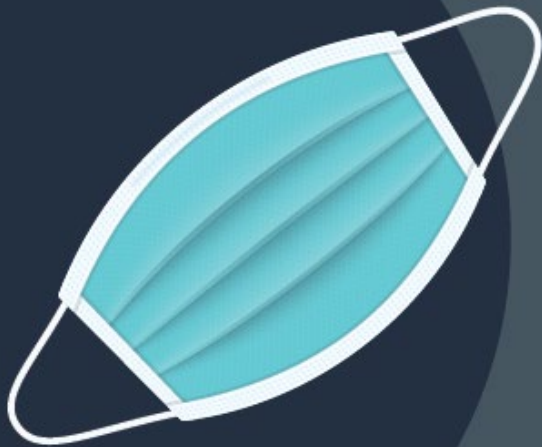

**1ST
DAY OF
SCHOOL**

CHECK-IN

CHECK-OUT

PROCEDURES

As a reminder, to assure the health and safety of our students and staff, visitors/volunteers are not permitted in the building during the school year unless existing COVID conditions change. Check in and check out are done via text (communication sent to parents). Parents will provide photo ID and their Driveline number via text. Parents will provide their unique Driveline ID once at the front door for check outs. Students will be sent out once the Driveline number has been displayed.



Helping Children Wear Face Coverings

All Athlos students will be asked to wear face coverings this school year due to COVID-19. Athlos has come up with some simple and fun ways to help your students adapt to wearing a face covering. On the following page you will see tips and suggestions about wearing a face covering.



Helping Children Wear Face Coverings



All Athlos students will be asked to wear face coverings this school year due to COVID-19. Athlos has come up with some simple and fun ways to help your students adapt to wearing a face covering.

These tips and suggestions are based on advice provided by science and health experts with years of experience and education on the importance of mouth coverings and their effectiveness. You can read more from the following sources:

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Mayo Clinic](#)
- [Stanford Medicine](#)
- [National Library of Medicine](#)

Athlos Academy of Utah is following the face covering order for schools as advised by national and local health departments. On-campus students are expected to wear face coverings and practice social distancing while on campus. [You can find the order here.](#)

HERE ARE 7 WAYS YOU CAN HELP YOUR STUDENT ADAPT TO WEARING A FACE COVERING THIS SCHOOL YEAR.



Explain why it's important.

Try to use simple and easy-to-understand language that is both positive and realistic. For example, you can say "Lots of people are sick right now and wearing a face covering will help protect you and others around us from germs."

[Here is a helpful comic children can read as well.](#)



Start with clothing they're familiar with.

Face coverings can make a child feel uncomfortable and scared, so start with the basics, such as bandanas, scarves, a gaiter/balaclava, or a shemagh/keffiyeh.



Practice wearing it in public and around the house.

This is an important step because it helps to start a habit of remembering to wear it during school. [Read this comic together](#) to practice the steps on how to wear it properly [according to guidelines by experts](#). Be sure you are setting a good example by wearing a face covering along with them.



Helping Children Wear Face Coverings



Encourage playtime that involves face coverings.

For younger children, sometimes it's the fun and excitement of wearing a face covering that helps them adapt. Playing pretend doctor, nurse, veterinarian, or their own creation of dress up are great ways to normalize the practice.



Use toys or props to make a point.

For some children, placing a face covering on a stuffed animal, doll or action figure can give them support for wearing one. You can even get humorous by placing googly eyes and a face covering on inanimate objects! Things like this help the student understand that we are all in this together.



Take a photo together.

Whether you decide to share it with others or for your own personal keepsake, the act of taking a photo together while wearing face coverings can create memories and further normalize the practice for the child. This is especially made fun when they customized the face covering themselves.



Get creative with your face coverings.

Children are far more likely to wear something they think is cool, colorful, and fun! A quick Google search will pull up many homemade face covering patterns; here are a few fun ideas for making creative face coverings:

- Let children pick out the pattern and colors they want the face covering to come in.
- Let them laugh by finding patterns with fun expressions (school appropriate of course).
- Decorate face coverings by sewing on cartoon cutouts, gluing on sequins, tie-dying them, and more.

WARNING: Do NOT draw on face coverings using markers, paint or any other toxic fume emitting products that can be breathed in through the face covering, cannot be washed out, or inhibit the wearer to properly breathe.

TIPS FOR SUPPORTING YOUR ONLINE STUDENT



Virtual learning can be a challenging change for some students, especially if they're used to attending classes in person. Learning at home also has its rewards and benefits. Here are some great suggestions and tips by educators that can help your families adapt to a virtual learning landscape.

CREATE A DAILY ROUTINE. Children thrive on routines and can quickly develop daily habits. Routines have been proven to help increase cognitive function, memory, and focus/self-control. The [Athlos PBIS family matrix can help](#) your family hold meetings, establish expectations and schedules/routines, address needs, and set rules and rewards for family members.

MAKE A QUIET SPACE. This can be a simple personal desk or corner in the home away from distractions and others. You can also make it fun by involving blankets/pillow forts, festive lights, and more.

LEARN WHO YOUR CHILD'S TEACHERS ARE. You do not need to know every detail of your child's life, but knowing their class schedule and names of teachers and classmates will aid you in building a list of contacts for help and answers to questions throughout this school year.

SET DAILY GOALS BEFORE LEARNING BEGINS. Daily goals can support long-term goals made in the [Athlos PBIS family matrix](#). These can be simple questions, such as: "What do you plan to work on today? What did you accomplish today? What did you find challenging today?"

ASK DAILY REFLECTION QUESTIONS. When your student is finished with school for the day, ask them questions, such as: "What did you learn today? What did you accomplish today? What did you find challenging today?"

PROVIDE FREQUENT ENCOURAGEMENT AND REMINDERS. These can be helpful on an as needed basis. Some students need encouragement while others simply need reminders to do the work.

TAKE REGULAR SCREEN BREAKS. We cannot emphasize this more, *please take breaks away from screens*. Students will already be spending upwards of 4+ hours on a device. Extended periods of time in front of a screen can cause headaches, fatigue, and disrupted sleep cycles in children.

BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE WITH YOURSELF AND YOUR CHILD. Virtual learning can be a challenge for the whole family. Just as it's important for students to take breaks, make time in your busy schedule for at least a 10-minute break to think. Practice, daily habits, and patience will ultimately be your key to success.

**This list has been adapted from a [virtual instructions guide for parents](#) created by the [Louisiana Department of Education: Louisiana Believes](#).*

UPCOMING EVENTS

		August 26 First Day of Kindergarten School Board Meeting	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	September 23 Vision screening	24	25	26	27
28	September 29 School photos	30	1	2	3	4