



**RUDOLF
STEINER
SCHOOL**
OF ANN ARBOR

ENGAGING
**Head
Heart
Hands**

SteinerSchool.org

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Community Compact August 2020

Over the past few months, we have done a great deal of work together to prepare for the coming 2020-21 school year, and we are as prepared for what the coming twelve months bring us as any community can be. However, there are things that we can all do that will help us stay healthy and connected into our future. These include:

- Having patience with each other as we learn a whole new way of being at school. As we have all experienced as we move from the Stay at Home order to a slightly more normal life, it is not normal at all – and at times it feels as if we are in a different country or time. The more patient and caring we can all be for each other as we experience the stress and anxiety of returning to school the more we will be able to come together and make this as nurturing an experience as possible for the students, teachers, parents and staff.
- Following the Health Department guidance around health and when to stay at home. This means that faculty members (who may be tempted to work through almost any illness) need to take the time off this year, and parents need to keep children home when they are unwell, and we understand how hard this can be at times. To be true partners with the Washtenaw Health Department we all also need to be responsive to them if they contact us, usually by phone. Please answer any calls from the Washtenaw Health Department and cooperate with them if they ask you to quarantine or share contact information.
- Refraining from judgement and curiosity when someone does test positive for COVID-19. It seems inevitable that at some point in the coming year someone, whether a faculty member, parent, or student, will test positive for COVID-19 and will have potentially exposed some community members. It will be easy to assume that they were doing something risky, but they may have just been going to the grocery store, or to work. We need to be supportive of anyone in the community who is taken ill.
- Considering how our personal behavior may open up risk for the community members we are in contact with. The choices we make in our personal life will have more of an impact on those around us than usual, so please make every effort to limit your exposure to COVID-19 in order to protect the school community.
- Sharing when things are not working well for us – whether it is school related or more general. We all need to be able to ask for support when we need it, and your Coordinators, teachers, and fellow parents can all work to solve problems, address concerns, and give a physically distanced hug.
- Talking with your level Coordinator – Abby Kurlfink for the Early Childhood Program; Peggy Wilson for Grades One to Eight; and Laura Shope, Ann Brennan or Heather Lomason for the High School – whenever you see or experience something that you think could be handled in a way that would be more supportive of members of our community. All the Coordinators are working to ensure that the plan is followed and that we meet all of our commitments to health and safety protocols, and if you are aware of something that is being overlooked or not fulfilled, please share that directly with them.

Together we can get through this coming school year in the best way possible – one that supports and nurtures our children and each other. We appreciate all your involvement and support in making this school year successful.