



## NOTES FROM SPARTAN LANE

John Thorsen, Head of School

[jthorsen@athensacademy.org](mailto:jthorsen@athensacademy.org)

September 30, 2021

Greetings from Spartan Lane,

What a beautiful time to be in Northeast Georgia. Mother Nature has provided some amazing days for all of us to relish. I hope you have been able to get outside and enjoy some sunshine and crisp air. While we've experienced several highs and lows, it's homecoming week on Spartan Lane and the students seem to be enjoying a positive atmosphere filled with school spirit.

Our Board of Trustees met last week and approved our next Strategic Plan. It will be shared in the very near future with our community. While our last plan included 49 action items, this one is more focused on eleven action items, and we would suggest it is equally ambitious and important. On Tuesday, our grade representatives from all divisions met and one of our primary goals is to get more parents to engage with our parent offerings. More will be shared in the weeks ahead, and we are excited to grow and learn with all of you. Next week our PSO executive committee will meet to work on the many events and activities planned for the school year. We are so grateful for all of our volunteers who go the extra mile for our students and school community--thank you.

Fortunately, this has not been an active time for COVID on our campus. Since we last wrote, we have added two more student cases in the Upper School in addition to a case from the athletics staff that we missed in our early September reporting. This brings our total for the year to 20. We appreciate your vigilance and support as we continue to function at a very high level. [A very worthwhile article from CNBC can be found here concerning effective communication with children.](#) Yesterday we hosted the first of two flu vaccination clinics for faculty, staff, students, and families, with the second slated for next Thursday, October 7. [Click here](#) for more information and to make an appointment.

### Athens Academy Monthly COVID-19 Case Count 2021-2022

Based on approximately 1,100 students & faculty/staff							
	PS Students	LS Students	MS Students	US Students	Teachers	Non-Teaching Staff	Athletics Staff
Aug '21	0	0	0	2	2	2	0
Sept '21	0	2	7	4	0	0	1

Please have a look at our calendar and consider joining us for an upcoming event, whether it be a region playoff game in volleyball, our one-act play, a football game, or Artscape 2021, which opens tomorrow in the Myers Gallery. We have had many talented artists over the years, but this is definitely a show to see, and I hope you are able to enjoy our amazing artists' work. Kudos to everyone who made the show. Thank you for your continued support.

Go Spartans,

John Thorsen  
Head of School

