

## Takoma Park Cooperative Nursery School, Inc.

8204 Flower Avenue • Takoma Park • Maryland • 20912 301.585.7272 • www.takomacooperativeschool.org

November 9, 2020

COVID-19 Local Order, Child Care Capacity

Please consider returning child care centers to their licensed capacities. We appreciate the need to limit crowding and keeping children and staff. We take this very seriously with special cleaning protocols and all children and staff wear masks. It is a simple fact that the most diligent and capable mask-wearers are the children! They have been so wonderful and patient as we hold outdoor programming following the recommendations of Green Schoolyards of America

Operating with the Phase 2 restrictions are negatively impacting our budget. We are spending down our reserves in order to pay staff by continuing to operate with the reduced capacities proposed.

We have a substantial waitlist — not just because we are offering an outdoor, mask-required program, but because so many child care centers and family daycares had to close. It is our hope that these friends and colleagues will not be closed forever, but each day that goes by with this limited student enrollment which also demands lower staff/child ratio will not meet our abilities to keep staff employed, the lights on, and children playing and learning.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lesley Romanoff Director