



June 25, 2020

Dear St. Patrick School Families,

We pray this letter finds you well and enjoying your summer already. I wanted to thank those of you who participated in the recent Town Hall/Q&A sessions and the New Parent Meet-Up sessions. A majority of our St. Patrick School families participated in the virtual meetings and we are grateful to those who joined us and asked their many questions. I hope you found the event informative and useful. I also want to thank Fr. Bob and the SPS Education Council for their support and assistance during this unprecedented time.

As a follow up to the Town Hall/Q&A sessions and the New Parent Meet-Up sessions, I wanted to reiterate a few details:

-St. Patrick School, like all schools in the state of New Jersey, is waiting on guidance from Governor Murphy and the NJ Department of Education.

-While that guidance may come soon, the Diocese of Paterson Catholic Schools Office, Morris County, and the Borough of Chatham also have to weigh in with their own guidance for schools. Guidance from these entities typically occurs 2-3 weeks after the state authorities issue guidance.

-St. Patrick School must wait on all of the above to weigh in before it can formulate its plan for reopening.

-St. Patrick School has assembled a Coronavirus Task Force, which includes school administration, faculty, and staff as well as the school nurses, Fr. Bob and parents, including a nurse and doctor. This Task Force is working on all facets of reopening based on guidance from the state and local authorities, including, but not limited to facilities, academics, finance, communications, and scheduling.

-It is the goal of St. Patrick School to open on September 1, 2020 with all students able to safely attend some form of in-person classes.

-We ask families to continue to practice good hygiene, including washing hands and using hand sanitizer, as well as social distancing with their children as this behavior will be reinforced by St. Patrick School teachers and nurses.

-Be sure to purchase school uniform items. Students will be required to wear uniforms while in-person at school.

-Stay tuned for more information in the form of emails, letters and videos from me during the summer.

As we await guidance from the Governor's Office, local authorities, and the Diocese Catholic Schools Office, we want to hear from you! Please complete the brief survey below regarding virtual learning and the reopening of school next year as we continue to plan for a variety of scenarios.

Blessings,

Christine Ross, Ed.D
Principal