

Blessed Sacrament School Reopening Draft Plan for the 2020-2021 School Year

Message from the Principal, Mr. Weber:

Blessed Sacrament School has already been significantly engaged in preparation for the 2020-2021 school year. School task force teams, BSS professional educator teams, Board of Trustee committees and regional, state and national teams have informed planning and assist us in preparation alongside evolving directives and guidance.

The Health and Safety of every student, teacher and staff member is our top priority, as we navigate new normals and challenging realities. We are currently working on robust plans and policies to support the CDC and the RIDOH evolving guidelines that promote a safe reopening of campus for all. While details will be expanded in the months to come, we can anticipate a wide variety of new processes and expectations to guide our interactions, Including:

- Expanding school cleaning services for more ongoing and targeted cleaning as guided by the CDC.
- Detailing student and faculty health policy review and revising to align with emerging expectations.
- Stocking cleaning supplies, disinfectants and anticipated school health office supplies.
- Cleaning all classroom spaces, expanding space for social distancing and engineering all rooms for ease of continual cleaning program.
- Reviewing plans with disease experts for students and faculty to return to campus.

Attached as a special addition to the Parent/Student Handbook is the reopening plan we are prepared to administer at Blessed Sacrament School this coming fall. I would like you to read it, and to understand the different scenarios and how they will be determined. I would also encourage you to be as informed and prepared as possible, as we know things can change minute to minute during this pandemic. We all need to be ready for anything and to be aware that things will continue to be very different during this coming school year. None of us know what the days ahead will bring, as there is no way to predict when changes may occur. However, we are working to be as prepared as we possibly can be, and to keep all of you and all of our students safe and healthy.

1. In-person and Hybrid Reopening Scenario: This scenario assumes a "minimum to none" level of community spread in Providence of COVID-19 per Gov. Raimondo and the RI Dept of Health. It includes adhering to all health and safety protocols for social distancing and other measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 as well as the other two scenarios. Per the state guidelines (pg. 22 of the reopening guide) distance learning is integrated with in person programs and will be utilized when necessary at Blessed Sacrament School. Elementary and Middle School students will be required to maintain stable groups or pods of up to 30 people. This capacity includes both students and staff. Stable groups will spend all or most of the day together as a group. Each class/pod will be expected to physically

distance (14 feet) from every other class/pod. Based on the size of the classrooms at Blessed Sacrament, class size will be limited to 14 students per class. **Distance learning remains an option in this model.** When students are moving around the school building, they will need to be taught the following expectations by their teachers and reinforced consistently by them on a daily basis. They include:

- Everyone washes their hands before moving to another section of the school.
 - Students will eat their lunch in their classroom.
 - Everyone washes their hands before and after eating
 - Everyone washes their hands before and after using any shared materials.
 - Follow the arrows as designated in the school when moving in the hallways and stairs.
 - Desks will be six feet apart in classrooms and if not possible, plexi-glass will be installed separating students by the appropriate distance.
 - Stay six steps apart on the stairs and in the hallways.
 - One student at a time uses the restroom
 - Students must wash their hands after using the bathroom.
 - Students will be told to wear their masks when moving to different parts of the school building, to recess, or upon entering or exiting the school. All movement of students around and within the school building is to be supervised by an adult and adhere to the expected six feet distance between stable group/pod members and 14 feet distance between different stable group/pod members.
 - Staff must wash their hands before and after traveling to different parts of the building.
 - Staff must wash their hands before and after eating or using the facilities.
 - Staff must wash their hands before and after working with students or another adult.
 - Staff must wear their mask, especially in the hallways and common areas.
- Structures will be in place to reduce exposure across students and staff.
- Students will be in one room with staff moving between classrooms to reduce exposure among different groups of students.
 - Teachers will monitor capacity and intervene as needed to adjust capacity and move students, specifically focused in the hallways and other high traffic areas.
 - Staff will work as hallway monitors encouraging and reinforcing social distancing among students.

2. Distance Learning Reopening Scenario: This model may become necessary if the state, or the city of Providence has an infection rate of more than 100 per 100,000 people in a given time period. In this scenario, Elementary and Middle School students will be required to remain at home and attend school on one of our digital learning platforms. The following expectations will apply to our distance learners:

- Student schedules will be sent by teachers on Fridays for the following week.
- Students meet with success when they have a designated work area at home.
- Students are expected to be on time. (attendance will be taken daily)
- Students will need writing implements, appropriate books etc.

- Students will need a white board with markers
- Younger students may need assistance in getting into classroom meetings and require guidance during the lessons.
- Students are expected to follow standard classroom rules, participate in classroom activities and hand in assignments on time. Students must not eat during lessons, talk out, talk to others outside the classroom meeting.
- Students are encouraged to communicate openly with teachers and staff.
- Parents must refrain from joining in the Zoom/Google Meets lesson and communicate with the teacher outside of the distance learning class.

Drop-Off & Pick-up Locations

- Students in our Preschool and Kindergarten program will be entering with their Parents, and exiting through the front red doors on Regent Ave. between the hours of 8:00AM to 8:20AM. Parents will not be allowed to stay after dropping off their child.
- Students arriving by bus will be entering through the front door at various times and greeted by the Principal who will immediately send them up to their assigned stable group where their teacher will greet them. They will be wearing their face masks upon entry.
 - Students in Grades 1 through 4 will enter and exit at the single gate (the same gate we've always used), and directed to their stable group area in the playground, or their classrooms during inclement weather.
 - Students in grade 5 through 8 will enter and exit at the double gate and directed to their stable group area in the playground, or their classrooms during inclement weather.

Before & After-School Care

- BSS will Open Daycare until 5:30 PM Each Day
- BSS will hold daycare operations within stable groups.
- Preschool assistant will stay with preschool stable group in designated area until closing.
- Grades 1 & 2 Assistant will stay with stable group of students in designated area until closing.
- Grades 3 & 4 Assistant will stay with stable group of students in designated area until closing.
- Grade 5 & 6 Assistant will stay with stable group of students in designated area until closing.
- Grade 7 & 8 Assistant will stay with stable group of students in designated area until closing.

Blessed Sacrament School Cleaning & Sanitizing Protocols

- **Cleaning and Disinfection**
 - BSS, with the leadership of Ocean State Cleaning, will [clean and disinfect](#) frequently touched surfaces (e.g., playground equipment, door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains) within the school at least daily or between use as much as possible. Use of shared objects (e.g., gym or physical education

equipment, art supplies, toys, games) will be limited when possible, or cleaned between use.

- BSS will acquire an electro-static sanitizing sprayer and classrooms will be sprayed daily.
- Develop a schedule for increased, routine cleaning and disinfection.
- BSS will ensure [safe and correct use](#) and storage of cleaning and disinfection products, including storing products securely away from children. BSS will use products that meet EPA disinfection criteria.
- Cleaning products will not be used near children, and staff will ensure that there is adequate ventilation when using these products to prevent children or themselves from inhaling toxic fumes.
- Remove any materials and toys that cannot be cleaned and sanitized.
- Will not share materials between classrooms
- Maintain precautions for mouthed toys
- Cloth toys will be washed before being used by another child.
- Store bedding in individually labeled bins or bags.
- Label cots for each individual child.
- Wash items as appropriate in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- BSS will post Hand-Washing Guidance signage in multiple locations.

Shared Objects-BSS will:

- Discourage sharing of items that are difficult to clean or disinfect.
- Keep each child's belongings separated from others' and in individually labeled containers, cubbies, or areas.
- Ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high touch materials to the extent possible (e.g., assigning each student their own art supplies, equipment) or limit use of supplies and equipment by one group of children at a time and clean and disinfect between use.
- Avoid sharing electronic devices, toys, books, and other games or learning aids.
- **Ventilation**
 - BSS will ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, for example by opening windows and doors.
- **Water Systems**
 - BSS will minimize the risk of [Legionnaire's disease](#) and other diseases associated with water by taking steps to ensure that all water systems and features (e.g., sink faucets, drinking fountains, decorative fountains) are safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown. Drinking fountains should be cleaned and sanitized, but encourage staff and students to bring their own water to minimize use and touching of water fountains.
- **Modified Layouts**
 - BSS will space seating/desks at least 6 feet apart when feasible.
 - Classroom desks will face in the same direction (rather than facing each other), or students will sit on only one side of tables, spaced apart.

- **Physical Barriers and Guides**
 - BSS will install physical barriers, such as sneeze guards and partitions, particularly in areas where it is difficult for individuals to remain at least 6 feet apart (e.g., reception desks).
 - BSS will provide physical guides, such as tape on floors or sidewalks and signs on walls, to ensure that staff and children remain at least 6 feet apart in lines and at other times.
- **Communal Spaces-BSS will:**
 - Close communal use shared spaces such as dining halls and playgrounds with shared playground equipment if possible; otherwise, we will stagger use and [clean and disinfect](#) between use.
- **Food Service-BSS will:**
 - Have children bring their own meals as feasible, or serve individually plated meals in classrooms instead of in a communal dining hall or cafeteria, while ensuring the [safety](#) of children with food allergies.
 - Use disposable food service items (e.g., utensils, dishes). If disposable items are not feasible or desirable, ensure that all non-disposable food service items are handled with gloves and washed with dish soap and hot water or in a dishwasher. Individuals should [wash their hands](#) after removing their gloves or after directly handling used food service items.
- **Hand Washing Guidelines and Respiratory Etiquette**
 - BSS will teach and reinforce [handwashing](#) with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among students and staff.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).
 - BSS will encourage staff and students to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 - Handwashing will be required for students and staff after each toileting, before each meal or snack, after wiping or blowing their nose, after touching any bodily fluid, before and after using water, sand, or other sensory tables, after messy play and upon entry from the outdoors.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer)

Remote Learning Expectations:

To access the Blessed Sacrament School Online Expectations, please follow this link to our Powerpoint Presentation:

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1r61wHgSsuR-f-CeYN-leF7GZF88v_VCOPvMBehixWA/edit?usp=sharing

