

ST. BENEDICT
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL



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Dear Families,

I hope this email finds you well. Thank you to everyone who has already responded to the Reopening Survey. On June 26th, the State of New Jersey published ["The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Education"](#). The St. Benedict Reopening Committee will be using this document along with the survey data to guide us as we plan for re-opening in September. A Return to School Plan document will be sent to parents the first week in August. This document will include school procedures and protocols, available options for instruction in the event students can be in the school building, as well as a detailed plan if the entire school needs to switch to Remote Learning.

On June 30th, committee member Anthony Valentino, a police officer with the Aberdeen Police Department, met with Mr. Donahue and me to discuss morning dropoff procedures. We were able to develop a new drop off plan that will allow students to be dropped off at their own wings. The new plan and map will be included in the Return to School Plan document that parents will receive in August. In addition to the written procedures and map, we will produce a video so families will be able to see the process in action.

On July 8th, the Reopening Planning Committee met to discuss the "The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Education" and analyze available survey data. The committee will be sending a one question follow-up survey that will allow us to establish social distance measures and develop instructional models to attempt to meet the broad range of educational needs within the St. Benedict community.

Mrs. Gallagher is developing a list of items that our Early Childhood students can work on to prepare for returning to school in September. We will share the list with our parents when it is complete. The committee has also decided that for the first half of the school year (September-December), students in Kindergarten through 2nd Grade will have the option to wear their gym uniform every day. Students in these grades who choose to wear the traditional daily uniform should wear slip-on or velcro shoes or sneakers. Students in grades 3-8 are still required to wear the Fall or Winter Uniform as per the student dress code.

The uncertainty of what school will look like is a great concern to both educators and parents. I want to thank all of the parents who have reached out to members of the committee to ask questions, offer assistance, or provide ideas. We appreciate your support and patience as we work together to develop a plan that will address the health and safety of our staff and students and continue to provide a quality Catholic School education.

Stay safe and well,

Christine Keeling

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