



ST. ANTHONY  
—DE PADUA—  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*St Anthony de Padua Catholic School develops life-long learners  
who live their faith through stewardship and are committed to  
Catholic virtues and academic excellence.*

August 26, 2020

Dear Saint Anthony Families,

We are thrilled to have school open - both in person and remote. It is wonderful to be learning and interacting with one another again.

After careful thought and discussion and in consultation with our COVID team and School Advisory Council, we have made the decision to institute early release Fridays. Beginning Friday, August 28th we will release at 1pm each Friday for at least the first quarter. Please see the [adjusted academic calendar](#).

We will work with any families that need assistance in accommodations this week. The YMCA will be available on early release days. If this change presents a burden for you, please reach out to me directly. We want to work with families during this unusual, uncertain, and stressful time. This will not impact our last day of school. We will no longer have early release on Monday, October 12th. We will still release early on October 28th and 29th for parent teacher conferences.

For our 7th and 8th grade students, there will be an expectation of some virtual practice (IXL and/or Aleks) during this time to ensure we are in compliance with state regulations for instructional time.

Before we institute this change long term, we want to ensure this meets the intended objective of allowing the teachers time to plan and collaborate to most effectively meet the needs of all students while supporting our teachers as they continue to adapt in this unusual time. We will re-evaluate closer to the end of the first quarter to determine if we will keep the early release Fridays and cancel the rest of the early release Mondays.

The primary reason for this change is to provide planning and work time for our teachers, which will directly benefit our students. Our teachers are working tirelessly to provide excellent instruction and feedback to both our in-school and remote learners. Their limited planning times during the days are filled quickly with checking in with remote learners and office hours. As teachers are working to create and use the most effective resources for both modes of instruction, they simply need time.

A few other notes and reminders:



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- For afternoon dismissal, you may enter from either Jefferson or Ironwood. We are then merging the two lines to one.
- Regardless of last name, you may pick up anytime between 2:50 and 3:15. (12:50 and 1:15 on Fridays)
- Please be sure all students are here by 8am. Students arriving after 8 are at a disadvantage and it does impact the rest of the class.
- For safety and to provide a sense of security for everyone, we may continue to wear masks, even if the county ordinance is lifted. We will keep you posted. It really has been a non-issue in the building.
- We ask that you and your family have a plan in mind should your child's class/cohort need to quarantine. Rather than close school, we may need to have certain groups stay home for remote learning.
- We have computers and devices ordered. Grant funds were not available until recently to purchase these and then there is wait time for the arrival of the devices.
- Thank you for sending utensils with lunches and water bottles, and for your patience and compliance with school policies and procedures.

We thank you for your trust and support as we continue to experience opening school during a global pandemic. Rest assured, your children are our first priority and we share your love for them. Please share any concerns you may have with me and I am happy to schedule a time to talk with you.

St Anthony de Padua, pray for us!

Most Sincerely,

Mrs. Karen Bogol  
Principal