



August 11, 2020

Dear Saint Anne's School Community,

Last week we submitted our reopening plan to the New York State Department of Education, and our plan was published on our school site. During that time, we have received a great deal of positive feedback from you, our school community, regarding the plan along with constructive questions on how we plan to safely and securely reopen. Some of you have asked for points of clarification, and our Reopening Leadership Team is developing a FAQ sheet to address these questions. We hope that you will find this helpful.

Saint Anne's Parish is making a significant investment in our school. The parish will provide the necessary funds, over \$200,000, to hire additional teachers for the 2020-2021 school year. This will allow classes in grades K-6 to be in a traditional learning model, direct instruction all day. We do not know of any other Catholic Parish making this type of investment for their Catholic School Students. This will allow us to limit class sizes while maintaining a safe six-foot distance, in grades K-6 a typical classroom will hold 15 students, additional information regarding 7th and 8th grades will be forthcoming.

Two significant questions have arisen regarding our plan. After meeting today with our Reopening Leadership Team here are our thoughts:

- 1) Masks: since we will be implementing six-foot social distancing, students will not be required to wear their masks while at their desks, although it will be strongly recommended that they do. Students will be required to wear their masks as they move through the building. Please remember to send your children with masks each day.



- 2) Remote Learning: some families are requesting, regardless of how St. Anne's School chooses to open in September, to keep their children home to learn remotely. This is an option available to you. Protocols will be forthcoming with how that request can be made.

To help us successfully begin our school year we will have the following calendar changes:

- 1) September 8th ONLY grades K-3 will report to school.
- 2) September 9th ONLY grades 4-8 will report to school.
- 3) September 10th grades K-8 will daily report to school.

Our Reopening Leadership Team believes that this is the best way for us to start this year in a safe, organized, and secure manner. Please make sure that your children come to school with all of their necessary school supplies each day, as well as lunch, a snack, a mask, and water. There will be no lunch, milk or snack available at this time. We will revisit our lunch and snack programs on a regular basis to secure a safe school dining experience.

Please remember that visits to the school office will now require an appointment. This will allow Saint Anne's School to maintain and sustain all the health precautionary measures as required by the New York State Department of Health and the CDC. In addition, we remind you that no one will be permitted entry to the building without a mask. Masks have been proven to limit the spread of COVID-19. Visitors' surface temperatures will be taken prior to entering the building, and a Health Screening Questionnaire will be required to be completed. We appreciate the cooperation of all in this matter.



Clear and descriptive signage has been placed throughout the school building, reminding all who enter of the proper protocols regarding hygiene and cleanliness. These practices are designed to meet the New York State Department of Health standards during this time of pandemic. We encourage you to review these Health and Hygiene Practices with your children. Guidance for these practices can be found in section IX of our Secure Reopening Plan.

Further communication will come from myself and the Reopening Leadership Team. Please know that we are working diligently to make this school year a success. With your help, we will certainly attain that goal.

God bless,

Paul Morisi, Principal