

⁺Dear QOA Families,

How blessed we are in America to be able to exercise the freedom of electing our government officials. Although a winner for the presidential election has not been declared as I write this letter, we pray that peace may reign throughout our country no matter the outcome. May Mary, the Immaculate Conception, who is the patroness of the United States, pray for and intercede for all Americans.

As we in America continue to deal with the Corona virus, I encourage all our QOA Families to recognize that the health and wellbeing of our school community is a top priority. Our school health and safety plan in conjunction with the Archdiocesan's plan was developed to ensure that in-person instruction could be carried out safely.

It is important to remember that members of our school community may not be in school for any variety of reasons. Merely being absent from school does not necessarily mean a member of our community has COVID-19. If a member of our school community feels symptomatic or tests positive, or if they may have been exposed to a person with COVID-19, then we require that he/she adhere to the detailed plan in place to minimize the spread of COVID-19 (visit:

<https://d2y1pz2y630308.cloudfront.net/23028/documents/2020/9/QOA%20Health%20and%20Safety%20Plan%209.1.2020-1.pdf> – QOAs plan and/or <https://aopcatholicschools.org/catholic-schools-onward-cso-2/>). Our health protocols include contacting the relevant health and diocesan officials and following their directives.

At this point, we have no laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19. If we received notification of a laboratory-confirmed case of COVID-19, I would communicate this to the school community. Please, Parents, refrain from spreading rumors or speculating about cases because it is imperative to safeguard and respect individual's privacy and adhere to Hipaa mandates. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated greatly.

Parents, the entire faculty and staff are doing everything possible to maintain a safe, healthy, and **happy** school environment. We want to remain open; therefore, we are most grateful for your cooperation in following our Health and Safety Plan. We do ask you to be sure your child/ren's mask fits their face properly, that it does not easily fall below their nose. In addition, Parents, please know that, for the children's comfort, they may continue to wear their gym uniform (shorts or sweatpants) daily, their winter or spring uniform, or whatever is most comfortable for them including sneakers. I would ask that when it is cold, please be sure children have outer wear for warmth. Thank you!

Our eighth grade, under the direction of their homeroom teacher, Mrs. Carter, did a superb job in creating an entertaining and fun-filled Halloween. From the door and pumpkin-decorating contests, to the dress-down day, to homeroom celebrations, and to fun-filled games – a good time was had by all! Although it may not have had the same look as in previous years, nonetheless, the students enjoyed the creative Halloween games directed by the 8th grade. Thank you, Mrs. Carter and the 8th grade students! Job well done 😊

Archbishop Perez recognizes the dedication and hard work of Catholic school educators and as a sign of his appreciation has gifted the schools a day off for rest and relaxation. The QOA Faculty has decided to enjoy the Monday after Thanksgiving, November 30, for our holiday. Thank you, Archbishop Perez!

May Mary, Queen of Angels, continue to protect and intercede for all of us.

Take care and God bless.

Sister Mary