



August 6, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians of Saint Mary School Students,

Please find attached the approved Reopening Plan for Saint Mary School this September. I am keenly aware that these are trying times and there is still much discussion about whether children should return to school full-time in the fall or not. Saint Mary School has made the decision to reopen with face-to-face instruction five full days per week. With the growing amount of evidence being put forth by the medical community and beyond, that children should return to school in September, we feel that our decision to reopen is the right one. The attached plan was developed and vetted by a distinguished committee, all lending their expert knowledge to the cause of ensuring that our children can return to school safely, while preserving the same sense of safety in their homes.

As you will see, when you read through this plan, every possible area of concern has been discussed, debated, and fully addressed during these unpredictable times. I will tell you that it was like shooting at a moving target at times, planning for a reopening with still many unknown factors. It is with a high level of certainty that I believe this plan is comprehensive enough to accomplish the goals set forth in the preceding paragraph. Continuous reviews of the best available information from organizations such as the CDC, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the World Health Organization, have further reinforced our belief that the students need to be in school.

The Saint Mary School Reopening Plan is the product of many hours of hard work, a strong commitment to student/family safety, a desire to see our students succeed academically, and a return to some sort of social normalcy for our students who have suffered the effects of isolation and lack of social interaction over the last 4+ months. It is with these considerations at the fore that we unveil this plan currently. It is our hope that you will appreciate the “finished” product but understand things could change at any minute. In such a case, we will be ready to adjust and modify the document as per any changes in the guidelines we receive.

It is with great pride and gratitude that I present this document to you today. Please read it and know that it was drafted with the Saint Mary School family first and foremost in the minds of all participants, only desiring to preserve our great school community and bring its families together once again.

May God bless you and keep you,

*Craig E. Palmer*

Craig Palmer  
Principal

**IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A SAINT!**