



# AVE MARIA ACADEMY

CATHOLIC VALUES • ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

July 28, 2020

Dear Ave Maria Families:

Preparations continue for Ave Maria Academy's upcoming school year. Like you, I am keenly aware of the ebb and flow of daily hopeful and challenging information from our federal, state, county and local officials. I think about, and am thankful for, our medical professionals and first responders who continue to unselfishly serve us all each day during this time. These prayerful wishes extend to all those I see day in and day out in our supermarkets, restaurants, delivery services, repair shops and our churches. We will soon be joining them.

We know that things are not back to normal, far from it. So we plan for a broad range of contingencies for the beginning of our school year with the only certainty being that adjustments will need to be (and will be) made as things come to our attention. Rest assured, we always plan to be the best educational and spiritual choice (now and in the future) for those who are most precious to us all.

Everything comes down to preparation. We are building our model to address needs, from daily (physical) in-classroom attendance, through a hybrid program, and if called upon to do so, a full school day through electronic means.

Everything really does come down to preparation, so I am asking all of you to join in and get ready for this fast approaching school year. We will start with a little unconventional school supplies list. Please purchase (nondescript) face masks which cover both the nose and mouth (over the past several weeks, I have seen supplies of the disposable types of masks in Costco and Walgreens, so supplies are catching up), bottled water (as communal water fountains will be shut off, and understanding that water is the most necessary/useful beverage for the thinking mind), a home, infrared thermometer (which will make our homes the first line of defense and protection for our children).

We want to demystify the wearing of masks for our children, as well as other necessary best practices of frequent hand washing, drinking from a water bottle and trying to keep their hands away from their face, so practicing now, in the comfort of our homes, building up to a full school day, will pay dividends on the first day forward.

I spoke to you about our ability to adapt and our need to do so. Last Friday, our Assistant Principal, Miss O'Keefe, notified me that she would be departing us. I can honestly say that Amy's efforts during her brief tenure greatly assisted me, and us, in the development of our new school. I wish her well. We are blessed to have a teacher cadre who have extensive life and Catholic School operational experience. Rather than rush into an interim solution, I will identify senior educators at both campuses to assist me as I move between our campuses each day. I want the best for our children, and whether they are developed in-house, or discovered elsewhere, rest assured our vision remains the same, and we look forward to adding them to our roles of proven professionals.

Finally, during my tenure, I have been contacted by families who are looking to join us, based upon your recommendations. I am both humbled and thankful for your trust and support...

Mrs. Lynne Lynch  
Principal  
Ave Maria Academy