



*St. Angela Merici*  
PARISH SCHOOL

# Reopening Plan 2020- 2021 School Year

Draft date: August 11, 2020

## **Overview**

The St. Angela Merici Parish School reopening plan is informed by guidance from the Diocese of Orange, CDC, CDPH, CDOE, OCPH, OCDE and various other independent sources including medical professionals, parents and community members. The key components of the reopening school plan addresses the health and safety of our students, teachers and staff. The strategies we put in place do not guarantee that students and staff will not be exposed to the COVID-19 virus. It is a plan to mitigate, not eliminate, risk. St. Angela Merici Parish School will work diligently to implement all safety measures. This situation is still fluid in nature and these plans are subject to change based on potential changing directives made by the CDC, state, and local agencies. These reopening plans are effective as of August 11, 2020.

### **General Measures:**

*The following provides a snapshot of changes that will be implemented to improve the overall safety and well being of our students and staff.*

- Access to the school campus will be limited to students, staff and very limited authorized guests and volunteers
- Limit shared objects and materials used at school
- Prohibit use of drinking fountains (except for refilling stations)
- Encourage students and staff to bring water in reusable containers that must go home to be cleaned on a daily basis
- Students belongings and school supplies kept separated
- Per Diocesan instructions, all student field trips and travel are cancelled until further notice
- Lunch and snacks must be provided by the parents (until further notice)
- Regular meetings with the school's COVID-19 Health and Safety Committee will be held to monitor the effectiveness of the school's COVID-19 plans
- Late start every Wednesday will continue
- School uniforms must be worn regardless of on-campus or at-home learning

### **Promoting a Healthy School Environment:**

*Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting measures will take place on a daily basis.*

- Routine cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces within the school campus throughout the day using disinfecting wipes and electrostatic sprayers
- Student restrooms will be disinfected multiple times a day using the electrostatic sprayers
- Classrooms will be disinfected by the custodian team at lunchtime and afterschool for lower grades and in between class changes for Middle School
- Playground equipment will be sprayed with disinfectant throughout the day by the custodian team
- Thorough cleaning and sanitizing when the school closes
- AirOasis Or iWave Air Purifying Units Mounted In Rooftop HVAC Units installed throughout the campus
  - A. The bi-polar ionization generator designed specifically for treating air in duct HVAC systems. As the air flows past the iWave-R or AirOasis unit, positive and negative ions actively purify the supply air, killing mold, bacteria and viruses in the coil and living space. The ionization process also reduces allergens, smoke and static electricity, as well as controlling odors (cooking, pet, VOCs) and other particles (no more sunbeams) in the air without creating ozone or any harmful byproducts.
- Four portable handwashing stations will be placed around the campus and frequent handwashing will be mandated and closely monitored by the teachers and staff
- Automatic wall mounted hand sanitizers in every classroom
- To create a flow of traffic in a safe manner, classroom doors are marked "entrance" and "exit." Signage around campus will direct foot traffic in a clockwise order

### **Health and Safety**

- Staff/student temperatures taken daily prior to entering classrooms
- All students must be dropped off and picked up in car line. Carline will run from 7:40- 8 am
  - Students will have their temperature taken in car line prior to the car pulling away
  - No-touch thermometers used to ensure temperature below 100.4 without the use of fever reducing medication
  - Students and staff must stay home if any of the following symptoms are displayed: a temperature 100.4 or higher, substantial congestions (not allergy related), cough, sore throat, nausea, stomach ache, ear ache; symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or if they have had close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19
  - Students must wash their hands before reporting to their classroom
- The staff lounge will not be available for eating or lounging
- A clear door will be installed on the Health Room to allow for isolation and visibility of sick students

### **Identification and Tracing of Contacts**

- If a student or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19, the school will immediately notify local health officials. These officials will help administrators determine a course of

action. The school will likely dismiss the exposed students and staff for 2-5 days. This initial short-term dismissal allows time for the local health officials to gain a better understanding of the COVID-19 situation impacting the school and for custodial staff to clean and disinfect the affected facilities. The school will work with the local health officials to determine appropriate next steps, including whether an extended dismissal duration is needed to stop or slow further the spread of COVID-19.

- An infected employee should consult with their health care provider immediately and follow the directives provided to them by their health care provider. The infected employee should follow CDC recommended steps, and not return to work until the criteria to discontinue home isolation are met, in consultation with healthcare providers and state and local health departments. Currently, the CDC's criteria for discontinuing home isolation require that the employee experience all of the following: (1) 3 days with no fever, (2) respiratory systems have improved (e.g. cough, shortness of breath), and (3) 10 days have passed since his/her symptoms first appeared.
- The school will review symptoms with employees and parents of students. Employees who have symptoms (i.e., fever, cough, or shortness of breath) should notify their supervisor and be sent home as soon as possible. Students who have symptoms should be kept home. Anyone who experiences these symptoms at school will be separated from well students and staff until the sick person can be sent home.
- Employees and students with an underlying medical condition, and who are concerned, should consult their health care provider.

### **Testing of Students and Staff**

- To ensure the safety of students and staff, surveillance testing will be implemented. The school will test staff periodically, as testing capacity permits and as practicable. When a student or staff exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, the student or staff member will be sent home and testing will be recommended. School employees and students who need testing should either go to their health care provider or a state-operated or other community testing site. The Department of Managed Health Care has filed an emergency regulation to require health plans to pay for COVID-19 testing for all essential workers, including school staff. In addition, tests are available at community testing sites throughout the state.

### **Health Hygiene Practice**

- Daily routines enabling students and staff to regularly wash hands and use hand sanitizer. Mobile hand washing stations located throughout the campus
- Practices that ensure personal health and safety including: handwashing techniques, avoiding contact with one's eyes, nose and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes
- Hand sanitizer stations in every classroom and located throughout the campus
- Clear door installed on the Health Room to allow the sick to be safely isolated until picked up

### **Protective Equipment**

- Students in grades 3rd through 8th must wear face coverings. Face masks in TK- 2nd are optional, but encouraged.

- Per the Diocese of Orange guidelines, staff are required to wear face coverings or face shields when in the presence of others (exception for those who are unable to wear a face covering for medical reasons)
- Guests and visitors who enter the school building are required to wear a face covering
- Parents of children who wear face coverings are responsible for teaching their children how to properly wear and care for their face covering during the school day.
  - Masks should be a solid color
  - Students are required to have extra masks in their backpacks

### **Physical Distancing**

To the extent possible, we will practice physical distancing in the classrooms, hallways, bathrooms, on the playground during recess/lunch and during drop off and pick up. To promote physical distancing, the following measures will be taken:

- Students will stay in grade level cohorts throughout the school day. This includes in the classroom and at recess and lunch
- Students will be encouraged to play 6 feet apart. All equipment will be sanitized after each use
- Optically clear .06"/1.5mm thick durable PET material desk guards on every desk and table
- Students will sit 6 feet apart at the lunch tables for snack and lunch, cohorts will have staggered lunchtimes. Shared food will not be permitted.
- Maximizing space between desks as much as possible
- Facing student desks forward
- Extra furniture and flexible seating have been removed in the classroom to allow for more space
- Discontinuing locker use
- Stickers on the ground, 6 ft apart, outside of the restroom will avoid congestion when students use the bathroom
- Walkways marked with arrows to create a walking pattern
- Entrance and exit signs on the classroom doors
- Staff meetings will continue to be held virtually

### **Classrooms**

*To the extent possible, we will minimize mixing students in the classrooms, hallways and bathrooms, and on the playground during recess/lunch. To minimize mixing, the following measures will take place:*

- TK- 5th grade:

- Students will remain with their homeroom teacher in a self contained cohort/classroom with extra teachers pushing in (with possible exception of P.E, Science and Enrichment Math)
- Minimal sharing of materials and supplies
- Limited parents, guests and visitors on campus
- Student field trips and travel are cancelled for the foreseeable future
- Staggered recess/lunch schedules
- Middle School (6th-8th Grade)
  - Block Schedule implemented to reduce the number of daily class changes
  - Staggered release times from classrooms to reduce the number of students in the hallways
  - Minimal sharing of materials and supplies
  - Limited parents, guests and visitors on campus
  - Student field trips and travel are cancelled for the foreseeable future
  - Staggered recess/lunch schedules

### **Distance Learning Option**

- Available for students in Kindergarten- 8th grade
- A trimester commitment will be required
- A livestream of the classroom will take place for at home learners
- Google Classroom and Zoom will be used by all students and teachers

## **Appendix**

1. Orange Diocese Reopening Plan
2. American Academy of Pediatrics  
<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>
3. CDC  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>