



St. James Catholic School

507 S. Camp St.
Seguin, TX 78155
830-379-2878 FAX 830-379-0047
www.sjcstx.org

August 7, 2020

Dear St. James Families,

Today we are proud to share with you our staged reopening plan for the 2020-2021 school year. We look forward to your help and support as we now need our Parents as Partners in making this school year successful for our SJCS students and families. First, I would like to take the opportunity to introduce to you our new faculty members who are excited to join our St. James family: Kindergarten teacher, Pamela Barnett, First grade teacher, Tahnika Mates, and Fifth grade teacher, Angela Zamzow.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 issues required us to make the difficult decisions to close our 2K class room and combine our 3K & 4K classrooms. We very much regret the loss of Lynne Lawrence, Miss Hillary, and Erica Villarreal who will be leaving to pursue her Bachelor's degree. We pray for their continued health and well-being.

Our reopening plan is the result of much hard work of our staff over the summer and, while we know some of you may be disappointed that we are not opening in-person, we are committed to making the health of your children and our staff the first priority. All other goals are secondary to that. I realize that this staged reopening plan is imperfect and we all would much rather be able to have everyone on campus August 17, but we must prioritize our community's health and safety. I also have to acknowledge that some of our prior communication to you has been confusing or frustrating. I apologize for that, but I will not apologize for taking the time to review all options to make the safest decision for our unique situation.

The safety protocols we have been given thus far from the Archdiocese are non-negotiable. These are outlined in the staged reopening plan including the mandate that we must wear masks on campus.

1. Distancing
2. Mask
3. Screening
4. Hygiene

I know that our plan is missing the answers to some critical questions you have been patiently waiting for, such as the procedures for closure and reopening when we have a confirmed case of COVID-19 on campus or when individuals should quarantine if they suspect they have been exposed. We are closely studying the CDC guidelines and I promise you that as soon as we have those procedures from the Archdiocese, we will share them with you. In the meantime, we are reassured that by opening virtually, we will be able to meet these safety requirements before we are set to start welcoming you to campus in person in Stage III.

Because we will be online for most of the first three weeks of school, we are able to offer a limited number of digital equipment to our families that are in need. You may contact Lo'Ra Dick at: 830-556-7168 or ldick@sjcstx.org. Please notify Lo'Ra of your need by August 13, 2020

I am excited that we have some amazing things planned for the next few weeks online! We are sharing some of this with you today, and you will hear more from your teachers, our counselor, and our health coordinator next week. We ask for your patience and flexibility as you partner with us to make our staged reopening a safe and wonderful experience for everyone.

With your help, faith, and prayers, we are sure to make this unique and challenging school year a success. Please reach out to me, our counselor Mrs. Spencer, our health coordinator Mrs. Velez, or your child's homeroom teacher if we can be of any assistance. We look forward to seeing you and your children online and in person safely and soon!

United in Love,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Johanna Lopez". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Johanna Lopez
Principal