

## Diocese of Beaumont

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Office of Catholic Schools

July 10, 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope this finds your family healthy and safe. Diocesan administrators, principals and staff have been meeting and working on a *Guide for Reopening School during the COVID-19 Pandemic*. The plan is still a work in progress as we wait for Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops Education Department, our accrediting agency, to publish updated requirements.

The following decisions and plans have been made to support our faithful community of learners. It is our goal to provide an excellent education in a safe and healthy environment.

- The Diocese of Beaumont Schools will open August 10, 2020.
- Instruction will be face to face in the classroom with their teachers.
- No hybrid models are being considered at this time.
- Distance learning may be used only to support students during a long absence.
- If you have concerns regarding face to face instruction or your student has any underlying health issues visit with your principal regarding your options.
- Schools are establishing innovative use of alternate space to support social distancing. Cohort groups can be established to limit contact.
- We have procured Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) supplies. But, we ask that you please, provide masks for your students. Everyone will wear masks and/or face shields daily.
- Sanitizing procedures will be rigorous. Students will be instructed in positive procedures and practices to protect their personal health. Sanitizing and handwashing will be routine.

The health and well-being of our students and staff are extremely important. The most important goal is to keep the campus COVID-19 free and to minimize the spread of the virus.

- Keep students home if they have symptoms:
  - Fever of 100.0 or higher
  - Loss of taste or smell
  - Cough
  - Difficulty breathing
  - Shortness of breath
  - Headache
  - Chills
  - Sore throat
  - Shaking or exaggerated shivering
  - Significant muscle pain or ache
  - Diarrhea
- There will be daily monitoring and temperature checks.
- Please, inform the principal or superintendent if someone close to your child is tested positive. HIPPA guidelines will be respected and kept confidential.
- Please, practice social distancing and wear a mask when not in school.

As partners in your child's education, we look forward to meeting the challenges ahead of us with your help and support.

*"Lord, may you bless the world, give health to our bodies and comfort our hearts. You ask us not to be afraid. Yet, our faith is weak and we are fearful. But, you Lord, will not leave us at the mercy of the storm. Tell us again: Do not be afraid" (Mt 28:5) And we, together with Peter, "cast all our anxieties onto you, for you care about us" (1 Pet 5:7)*

*-Pope Francis  
Strong in the Face of Tribulation:  
A Sure Support in Time of Trial*

With faith and hope, we can embrace this opportunity to diligently overcome these obstacles. Thank for your patience and know that you and your family are in my daily prayers.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Marcia Stevens



Superintendent of Schools  
Diocese of Beaumont

CC: Bishop Curtis Guillory, S.V.D., D.D.  
Monsignor Michael Jamail