



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF LEXINGTON

THE CATHOLIC CENTER

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

14 September 2020

Dear Catholic School Communities of the Diocese of Lexington,

As part of our planning for the beginning of the school year, the four dioceses in the State of Kentucky agreed to offer in-person instruction in our schools. We only did this after considerable consultation and with assurances that each of our schools had plans in place to provide the necessary safeguards for students, faculty and staff and with the understanding that in the uncertain climate of the pandemic, all decisions like this were subject to further revision. We also said that we would conduct a review of how everything was going during the week of Labor Day.

After hearing from school leaders and personnel, the four bishops affirm our plan to cautiously continue in-person instruction at our Catholic schools. Because of the nature of the pandemic, we are most likely to hear about individuals who have contracted the virus. We will follow the lead and directives of the local health department as to what steps need to be taken in each of these cases. We also urge all parents and guardians to cooperate with the health department and school directives in each situation. If you have questions about any aspect of this, please be in touch with Tom Brown in the Office of Catholic Schools at 859-253-1993.

Once again I am deeply impressed by our superintendent, our principals, teachers, staff, students and all who have worked to make the return to classrooms a good experience for all. Our teachers have truly been exemplary as they accommodate the new circumstances and continue to provide quality instruction in the various ways that it is being offered.

Peace and all good,

Most Reverend John Stowe, OFM Conv.
Bishop of Lexington