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August 18, 2021

Dear All Saints Family,

As we approach the first day of school, I write to offer the latest information and guidance on how All Saints intends to deliver quality instruction while also trying to keep Covid safety in mind. Faculty/Staff met on Monday, Aug 16 to discuss what we see as both safe and functional for our students, families, and faculty/staff. We trust that the guidance we are offering will be what's best for all stakeholders. (Topics in bold are in alphabetical order:)

- **Absence policy** - Families who decide on their own to have their child stay home will be counted as absent that day. Families must work with their child(ren)'s teacher to make sure assignments are collected, completed, and submitted in a timely fashion. In essence, the pre-covid absence policy is in effect.
- **Bathrooms** - There are brand new, additional bathrooms in the new part of the school. We have greater ability to offer more space for students. We will continue with our system of having students turn a red "Stop" sign or a green "Go" sign to signal when the bathroom is at capacity.
- **Cafeteria lunch schedule:** We have added a lunch period (up from 2, now 3) to allow us to "thin out" the number of students in the cafeteria. JK-2nd gr will eat together, 3rd-5th gr will eat together, 6th-8th gr will eat together. Students will be assigned seats at the tables and will be staggered so that they are not seated directly facing each other.
- **Masking:** Per the VA Public Health order, masking will be mandatory for all students and faculty/staff regardless of vaccination status. A Medical Accommodation Form is available for students who need an exception to masking.
- **Morning drop-off:** Temperatures will not be taken at the door this year. At least during the first nine weeks, students will walk straight to their classrooms (instead of gathering for a morning assembly).
- **Morning start time - 8:00am** - Please note that the tardy bell will be 8:00am this year (This is a change from the 8:10am tardy bell last year). This reverts back to pre-covid times when the tardy bell rang at 8:00am.
- **Sanitation Specialist / Janitorial Service** - We are continuing with our daytime sanitation procedures with the help of Mrs. Paulina Velasco. We are also continuing with our night time cleaning service as well with BW Janitorial.
- **School Mass** - At least for the first nine weeks, we will continue to offer Mass in two separate groups. Mass will be on Thursdays at 8:30am. We will host assemblies and recognitions before Mass at 8:10am.
- **School Nurse** - Nurse Amy Bartels, RN will be with us on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays.
- **Students will switch classrooms in a controlled manner:** We believe that students can safely be in different classrooms. With the newly added space in the building, we can control traffic in the hallways better than before. We anticipate that students will move from one class to another for Resource classes (PE, Art, Music, STEM, & Library). Middle School students will switch classes in an orderly manner so that students are not congregating in the hallways.
- **Virtual Instruction** - In general, we will not be offering Virtual Instruction this year. We do have the ability to "pivot" quickly if we need to go virtual as a result of an outbreak or other event (weather) that causes us to be away for an extended period of time. Furthermore, students who test positive for Covid or who are required to quarantine because of a close contact will have the opportunity to connect virtually with their class(es) during their Covid quarantine.

Our teachers have had a very good work-week. There is a great deal of energy and excitement amongst our team as we have been able to reconnect and settle into the new space. We trust that we will have a safe and successful school year.

With all the saints,

Michael Kelleher, M.Ed., M.Ed.Admin.
Principal

"Gem of the Northside"

All Saints is a Catholic school of high moral expectations & academic rigor. We offer a quality junior-kindergarten through eighth grade education in a structured, holistic, diverse and disciplined environment.