

Dear Parents,

As you may have heard, the Copley-Fairlawn School District announced plans this morning to begin the school year in a remote learning format. Several days ago, the Akron Public School District announced similar plans. We realize that these announcements, and more that could follow, may raise questions and concerns among St. Hilary School parents about what this change means for our school.

While COVID-19 is the common denominator for all, the logistics that drive each school and district's decisions vary widely. As we explained in the announcement of our [Responsible Return Plan](#) on Monday, July 27, our planning has been undertaken with guidance and recommendations from the State of Ohio Department of Education, the State of Ohio Department of Health, the Diocese of Cleveland, Summit County Public Health, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Centers for Disease Control, and your survey responses. Our planning has always had at the forefront the safety and well-being of our students and staff. When we released our plan, it was with the conviction that we are prepared to safely offer both in-person and distance learning platforms for our families, depending on their various needs. We want to assure you today that we remain committed to that plan. We feel that we are well-prepared to begin the school year in this way, and are pleased to be able to offer our families the best of both worlds with the options we are able to provide.

At the same time, we want to reiterate that as COVID-19 conditions warrant, we will follow further guidance from the state government, and it may become necessary for us to move entirely to a distance learning format. Therefore, we encourage every family to have a plan in place to be prepared for the possibility that this scenario could become reality at some point during the school year.

We also encourage every family to have an alternate plan for transportation as we continue with in-person learning while the public school districts that provide busing for our students may be in a remote learning situation. At this time we have not been given information about busing from the Copley-Fairlawn School District for our students in light of this morning's announcement. We have also not yet received busing information from the Revere Local School District. We will provide an update as soon as we receive that information.

As of today, we want to reinforce that we plan to start school on August 24 following our plan. We will be sharing follow-up communication with all of you next week that will address questions we have received about the plan, as well as additional details we have solidified since the plan was released. In the meantime, we look forward to publishing our class lists and other preliminary back-to-school information on August 1.

Thank you again for your patience and partnership with us during this challenging and ever-evolving situation.