

ST. HILARY SCHOOL RESPONSIBLE RETURN PLAN FOR 2020-2021

CALENDAR:

First Day: August 24

Last Day June 3

Christmas and Easter Breaks remain as scheduled

Other events cancelled / modified

Updated calendar will be published August 1

TWO LEARNING OPTIONS THIS SCHOOL YEAR:

OPTION 1: Traditional on-site, in-person learning experience in our classrooms five days per week, incorporating health and safety modifications in accordance with COVID-19 guidelines. Includes the ability to phase into and out of distance learning as needed based upon health conditions in our building and/or as mandated by state or local officials. If you choose Option 1 (in-person learning) but need to switch to Option 2 (distance learning) you may do so at any time with notification to Mrs. Woodman or Mrs. Alexander.

OPTION 2: Full-time distance learning for students who are unable to safely return in person, or are uncomfortable returning in person. This will occur simultaneously with in-person instruction in classrooms. If you choose Option 2 (distance learning) you will need to stay with this option for remainder of quarter to provide consistency for your child and our staff.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

SIMULTANEOUS LEARNING: Offers students the ability to attend classes in-person (Option 1) or online (Option 2) at the same time (synchronously). Our teachers are preparing to have both in-person students and distance learning students at the same time. We have been collaborating all summer to develop best-practices and have been engaged in professional development sessions with teachers. We are in the process of finalizing our distance learning guidelines and expectations and will be rolling these out soon. Keep in mind, our typical supports and services - guidance counselors and Intervention Specialists will still be available to students who are online.

CHOOSING BETWEEN OPTIONS: We know that your situation may change throughout the school year. You can opt into distance learning at any time, but cannot come back to in-person learning until a new quarter starts. Your child will not lose his/her place as a student if your family chooses Option 2. No matter if in person or online, your child is a St. Hilary School Student.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS:

Vigilant Assessment of Symptoms

- DAILY health checks prior to going to school – assess for COVID-19 symptoms and take temperature
- Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms or a temperature above 100 degrees MUST stay home
- Everyone entering building will also be screened for symptoms and have temperature taken
- Students will be checked as they exit their car or bus
- We will also do a mid-day temperature check of staff and students

Face Covering Policy

- Face coverings **required** in school for all staff members and for all students in grades 3-8 throughout the school day
- ALL students will be required to wear a face-covering in high traffic/common areas like hallways
- We are asking families to provide masks for their children as you know the style of mask your child is most comfortable wearing. Writing and distracting patterns / logos will not be permitted. We are trying to give some leniency with masks, but do reserve the right to prohibit certain masks if they have an inappropriate pattern or logo. Students need a clean mask every day, with a spare mask in the backpack. Please put the student's name on all masks.
- Mask breaks will be provided as often as possible
- **If your child is not able to wear a mask due to medical reasons, you will need to submit a physician's note to the school office**
- The school will provide all students and staff with face shields to use in the classroom when applicable and necessary. We have been advised that face shields cannot take the place of masks, but can be utilized during certain subjects and situations as deemed by the teacher.

Social Distance

- We will implement the American Academy of Pediatrics recommended social distancing of 3 to 6 feet wherever possible in our classrooms. We know 6 feet is the gold standard and have moved out excess furniture in all classrooms to do this to the best of our ability. We've measured every learning space in the building and will spread students out as much as possible in our classrooms.

Hand Hygiene

- We will insist on hand-washing breaks for students and we will have hand sanitizer abundantly available for all, in classrooms and in high traffic areas.

Sanitize Highly Frequented/High Touch Areas Often

- Our cleaning and sanitizing procedures will be thorough. This is something we always take seriously and now we will ramp up our efforts even more. We'll disinfect surfaces frequently, paying close attention to high touch areas.

SCHOOL-DAY LOGISTICS

- Students will be eating in the classrooms, but we have given consideration to those students with severe allergies and will alter this plan as needed for them. Hot lunch will still continue, and will be modified for classroom delivery.
- For recess, we will get students outside, maintain safe social distancing, and give them a break from their masks.
- We will keep our specials classes, but limit shared materials.
- In grades 5-8, we will follow our traditional schedules, but will have two cohorts of classes.
- With all grades, we will work to limit hallway travel and will have markings on the floor to help traffic flow and social distancing.
- We plan to operate our Latchkey program and are in the planning stages after recently receiving guidelines.
- We have heard from three of the four school districts that provide busing for our students. We communicated this last week and will keep you updated as we know more. We do know that all districts will require face-coverings on the buses.
- We are also changing our drop-off and pick-up procedures this school year to limit visitor traffic inside our school. We also communicated this last week and will keep you informed of any other changes.
- In order to minimize the number of people in our school, we will be limiting the number of volunteers allowed into our building.
- We will not have any in-person all school assemblies this year. We will also be limiting field trips and unfortunately, most will likely not take place.
- All of our typical in-person events such as Curriculum Night, 3rd and 6th grade Orientation, Kindergarten Kaleidoscope, Open House, etc. will be done virtually.
- We will continue to celebrate Mass together each week and on holy days. Each grade level (1-8) will plan several Masses as usual, but only the grade level planning the Mass will attend in person. Parents and grandparents of participants may attend but must sit in the back of the Church away from students. Masses will be live streamed and available for all to watch, and students not attending Mass in person will watch live streamed Mass from their classrooms. Eucharistic ministers will come to the classrooms to distribute Holy Communion. We will handle other religious services and events in a similar way.

COVID-19-RELATED CLOSURE

- If there is a diagnosed case of COVID-19 in our school community, we will be in immediate contact with the Summit County Health Department. We will work closely with public health officials and follow their direction to take appropriate quarantining measures and to provide transparency in communication to the community, while also meeting our obligations to protect privacy. These situations will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.
- It is possible, and we believe **likely**, that we may be **ordered** back into a distance learning situation at some point during this school year. If this happens, our expectations will be set much higher than what was experienced in the spring. This would include required video conferencing, specific schedules, and attendance checks, among other elements. We are in the process of planning for this situation and will keep you updated.
- To make sure we're ready for this, we have ordered Chromebooks for grades 3-6, in addition to the 1:1 Chromebooks we currently have for 7th & 8th graders. We will do our best to work with families who are in need of devices. There will also be some additional Acceptable Use Policies this year. We will be communicating with you about these soon.