

What will a “normal” school day look like this year, and what are some of the specific procedures the school will be enforcing?

It is the responsibility of each family to follow St. Johns COVID-19 Mitigation Plan and Decision Tree before sending children to school. Please remember to do a health screening of your child/ren each morning for symptoms of illness. Notify the school office of illness that would require your child/ren to stay home from school.

As students arrive in school (wearing a face mask), hand sanitizer will be used before proceeding to classrooms. Then they will proceed to their classrooms. Students have multiple coat hooks with spacing in between to place their backpacks and coats. In the classroom, desks are placed approximately six feet apart. Students are not to congregate in the hallways.

Parents are not to come in the building for drop-offs or pick-ups (exceptions are Eagle Care, Preschool parents, and parents that need to see Callies in the school office). All adults and students are to practice social distancing, inside and outside the school doors, and in the parking lot.

The library will not be used for checking out books; the library and the ramp will not be used for study areas. The library will be the designated quarantine room for any student who becomes sick; the student will be monitored by staff until the student is picked up to be taken home.

Students will wash hands before and after eating (snack and lunch). Boys in grades 5-8 will wash in the faculty bathroom, and boys in grades 2-4 will wash in the school bathroom. Girls in grades 2-8 will use the school bathroom for washing. Preschool through grade 1 students will use the bathrooms in their classrooms.

Students will use assigned doors to go outside. Grades 5-8: the door nearest the flagpole; grades 2-4: the playground door; preschool - grade 1: the door nearest to their classrooms. The playground for recess will be divided into three areas: the basketball slab, playground equipment, and the field; designated areas for play will be assigned.

The playground balls will be placed in a quarantine cage after the morning/noon recesses. Certain classroom materials will be placed in a quarantine container for cleaning or will not be used for 72 hours. Most of the cloth materials in the classrooms have been removed.

The opening Chapel, on the first day of school, Tuesday, September 8th begins at 8:15. After the first week of school, Chapel will be held on Thursday afternoons at 1:00. Chapel is open to everyone. Students will be seated in assigned groups by homeroom; guests are asked to sit in the back pews on the lectern side. Social distancing is expected.

Students who ride the bus will go out of the main school doors at the conclusion of the day. Students who are picked up by parents will be dismissed from the door nearest the flagpole. Preschool parents will pick up their child on the basketball slab outside the preschool room.

Students need to wear a face mask during recesses and physical education classes. There will be times when they can remove them as long as social distancing is maintained. Lanyards will be provided to the students for attaching their face mask.

Singing will be limited in the classrooms and during Chapel. The All School Choir is on-hold until further notice.

The importance of handwashing and the wearing of face masks will be explained in detail at the conclusion of the opening Chapel service. All procedures will be explained and practiced during the first few weeks of school.

Students will be assigned to a homeroom and their own desk. All classroom lessons will be taught in the students' homeroom. Only the Teachers will transition to other classrooms. The sharing of desks and supplies will not be allowed.

Lunchtime will be in the classrooms or outside. Students are encouraged to bring a cold lunch. Microwaves will be in the classrooms and wiped down after each use.

The drinking fountain has been shut off and replaced with an automatic water bottle filling station. All students should have a water bottle that is clearly marked with their name.

The areas in the school that are considered "high touch areas" will be cleaned with disinfectant throughout the day by the staff. Our custodian will do a thorough cleaning at the end of every school day. Any usage of classrooms by church groups will be cleaned before students use them again.

Further directions regarding learning and assignments will be addressed and communicated to St. Johns School families if there is an outbreak of the COVID-19 virus.

Patience and flexibility will be required this school year! There are a lot of unknowns; the main goal is to do whatever possible to keep all of our students safe and healthy. We pray that the Lord will continue to watch over and protect us from all harm and danger. May the Lord bless this upcoming school year, students, families, and the staff with His Love and Grace.

Working for the Lord,

Principal Gregory Brand

Principal Mr. Brand