

ST. JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Dear Families,

August 6, 2021

Our school community had tremendous success keeping everyone healthy last year, and we are confident that with the continued understanding and cooperation of all, we will be successful this year as well.

In her latest letter to principals, the Superintendent of Schools in the Diocese of Raleigh, Lytia Reese, stated: "The primary goals for implementing Covid protocols in our Catholic Schools continues to be the slowing of Covid transmission for our students and staff and the protection of consistent and uninterrupted in-person instruction on each campus."

In light of the ever-evolving situation caused by the most recent Covid-related outbreak in Moore County, school leadership, along with local medical professionals and members of the SJPII Living with Covid Taskforce, have used the guidance of the CDC, NC DHHS, Diocese of Raleigh, and Moore County Health Dept. to initiate the following protocols at the start of the school year.

At the start of school this year we will require:

- Wearing a mask indoors for all until local data trends in a positive direction making this optional
- Frequent hand washing and sanitizing
- Sanitizing surfaces at the beginning of each class, event, or activity allowing students to move between classes
- Maintaining cohorts
- Distancing when possible

Other implementations to keep people healthy:

- Ventilations system will run throughout the day for continuous circulation of air.
- Students will bring their own lunch to school. Pre-K through 2 will eat in their classrooms, 3-5 will eat outdoors weather permitting, and 6-8 will eat in the activity center physically distanced. Students will be encouraged not to linger at tables.
- Remote teaching and learning will be available when an entire class is quarantined.
- Visitors to the school during the school day will be limited and masked when afforded access.
- Parents and staff will inform the school office if they test positive.
- Individuals who are symptomatic or test positive will remain home for the required length of time.

The diocese has allowed a certain degree of latitude to schools depending on their location and circumstances. "This guidance (from NCDHHS 7.30.21) moved decisions regarding wearing face coverings, encouraging vaccinations, and social distancing to the local level through partnerships with local health departments and schools." In light of this latitude and local conditions, we will adjust the protocols accordingly as the school year progresses.

More information and communications will be forthcoming as it is received and deemed helpful.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Caritas in Veritate,


John J. Donohue III, Principal

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