



# St. Anthony Catholic School Newsletter

*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ~  
Jeremiah 29:11*

[www.stanthonysaints.com](http://www.stanthonysaints.com)

July 2020

## COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR REOPENING

We are excited to welcome back all of our students and families for the first day of the 2020-2021 school year on Monday, August 17th! This year our school day will begin at 8:00 and dismissal will be at 4:00. At St. Anthony's, we strive to provide a safe environment to create unique and faith-filled future leaders in our students during their educational journey. We also recognize that education is more than just academics. It involves values, faith and service.

Please review the information below as it contains new operating guidelines that will be enforced to keep our students and staff safe. We will be holding classes in the traditional face-to-face classroom instruction with precautionary safety measures implemented.

### Face-to-Face Classroom Instruction

- Face-to-Face Classroom instruction is the preferred method as it provides academic support, lends to a higher quality of learning, and provides for the social well being of the student. It will take place while incorporating precautionary safety measures.
- **Classroom configurations will allow for students to be socially distanced while providing an authentic learning environment.**
- Classroom instruction will utilize more online resources to support our regular curriculum. Programs such as Accelerated Reader, Khan Academy and Google Classroom will all be used to supplement classwork and assignments.
- Classroom materials of textbooks, workbooks and supplemental items including Scholastic publications and novels will continue to be utilized.
- **Students will have their own individual supplies.** School supply lists for PreK-5th will be made available. Sharing of supplies will not be permitted at this time. Hand sanitizers will be available in the classroom, however, students will be permitted to bring their own from home.
- **Water fountains in the building will be turned off. We ask that students bring personal DISPOSABLE water bottles as needed.**

## Dates to remember

AUGUST 10 - 14 ~

TEACHER IN-SERVICE

AUGUST 16 ~

SCHOOL SUPPLY DROP OFF  
TO BE ANNOUNCED

AUGUST 17 - 21 ~

FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL  
1:00 DISMISSAL

AUGUST 24 ~

FULL DAYS 8:00-4:00  
PTO 6:15

AUGUST 25 ~

SCHOOL BOARD 6:15

## GUIDANCE FOR REOPENING (CONT.)

- Students in grades 3 through 5 will have their own dedicated devices (Chromebooks) issued.
- Weather permitting, teachers may hold classes out of doors when possible.
- ***We are developing arrival and dismissal plans to ensure a safe environment and smooth transition daily.***
  - Morning arrivals will be through the main door and the gymnasium entrance. Traffic cones will be placed at curbside where faculty members will be present to take students' temperatures and direct them into the building. Parents are discouraged from entering the building to avoid contact with non-family members and staff. However, if you must enter the building, you will be required to stop at a screening station first.
  - Afternoon dismissal will continue to be at the Main doors and East doors. Traffic cones will be added to allow distancing for students and siblings.
- In order to limit the number of people in our school buildings, we are limiting visitors to our campus. There will be a drop off table located in the entrance for lunches and forgotten items. Please mark items with students' names and they will be delivered by staff to your child.
- ***Parents wishing to have lunch with their child will need to let the office know 2 days in advance to reserve a "family table". Social distancing MUST be observed. Limit 2 tables per lunch period.***
- You ***will be*** able to make appointments to visit with teachers, counselors and administrators as needed.

### Distance Learning Instruction-in the event of quarantine

- Should any students or staff/faculty members present with a positive, lab-verified test result for Covid-19, we would be required to notify all families. Those students and adults who have been exposed would then be required to self-quarantine for 14 days until they:
  - have no fever for at least 3 days (72 hours) without the use of fever-reducing medications
  - have no symptoms associated with Covid-19 (e.g, cough, shortness of breath muscle aches); and
  - at least 14 days have passed since onset of symptoms
- Distance Learning will be provided should an entire grade level class be quarantined.
- During distance learning, there will be a daily requirement for students to be engaged in school work.
  - ***Per Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops Education Department (TCCB ED) guidelines, students must attend 90% of a course in order to be awarded credit for the course and/or be promoted to the next grade level.***
- Grading policies will be consistent with those used in the traditional St. Anthony's face-to-face classroom instruction.
- ***Students and families will be expected to communicate with all teachers and meet assignment deadlines.***
- Families will be expected to create a learning environment to allow for daily learning expectations to be met. They will also be expected to ensure participation in all religious activities (Mass, morning prayer, etc.) via on-line platforms.



**Attention Parents! We need your hands - your heart - your support. Please sign up with your child's classroom teacher or in the office to be a room parent and PTO representative.**

## Health and Safety Measures

***Screening protocols for all staff, students, and visitors will be implemented before arriving on campus and into the building daily. No one with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher will be permitted in the building. Knowingly covering temperatures with fever-reducing medications in order to enter the campus places all others at risk of exposure to Covid-19 virus. These actions will result in disciplinary action of employees or dismissal of families.***

- ***Designated entrances will be identified and utilized this year to allow for social distancing.***
- Students, staff and faculty will be trained on proper hand washing procedures and other hygienic practices. Hands will be washed frequently throughout the day.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers will be located in all classrooms and common areas. They will be utilized frequently.
- Faculty and staff will wear non-medical grade face coverings per state, local and diocesan guidelines.
- ***Face coverings are required outside of classrooms in common areas by all persons (hallways, cafeteria, church...). Students in the 3rd through 5th grades will wear face masks or shields.***
- ***Due to the inability to guarantee 6 ft. distancing within our PK4 and PK5 classrooms, we are requiring face shields to be worn in class. Youth sized face shields will be provided by the school. Children in 1st and 2nd grade are not required, but are encouraged to wear protective face coverings with parental discretion when/if it is developmentally appropriate.***
- ***Social distancing in all areas of the campus and church will be implemented.***
- Surface cleaning of furniture and classroom materials will occur daily, along with expanded deep cleaning services.
- Non-essential visitors will be limited.
- Families should immediately notify the principal of any potential or confirmed COVID-19 cases.
- Any individual who is lab confirmed with COVID-19 or is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, must stay at home throughout the infection process and cannot return to campus until re-entry screening guidelines have been met.
  - At least three day (72 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever medication)
  - Individual has improvement in symptoms (cough, shortness of breath)
  - At least fourteen (14) days have passed since symptoms first appeared
- Any individual who has had close contact with someone who has been lab confirmed COVID-19 should stay home through the 14-day incubation period and will not be allowed on campus.
- In the event a lab-confirmed positive individual has been in school, the highly affected areas will be closed off, non-porous surfaces disinfected, and impacted individuals notified. During this time students will transition to Distance Learning with their teacher(s).

***As we venture into this school year together, be reassured that the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff is our number one priority.*** We ask that each family do their part to discuss the importance of good hygiene, healthy habits, and social distancing with your children. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to sharing more information and updates with you as they become available.

Stay safe and God Bless,

Paula Simpson, M.Ed., Principal