

# Moving Forward with Hope

# Re-Entry School Plan



St. Francis Xavier Catholic School

## **Introduction**

St. Francis Xavier Catholic School's mission is educating for eternity through faith and reason. We strive to meet this mission every day and will continue to live this mission regardless of the educational setting. We cherish our core principles of academics, character, and spirituality.

Our expectation is that the current pandemic will continue to challenge our schools, at least through the 2020-2021 school year. Therefore, we need to implement procedures to meet the ever changing and uncertain learning environment. We will continue to be guided by our desire to keep our families safe, to minister to the spiritual and mental health of our community, and to provide an excellent Catholic education.

This document is meant to be a practical guide for our school, families, and students as we navigate the upcoming school year. The information contained herein is subject to change based on the information available to us from health experts and public officials. We recognize that there will be varying levels of comfort with parents and faculty members concerning a safe return for children at school. The following plan attempts to address these different viewpoints. The plan allows for flexibility, transparency, and prioritizes an emphasis on the health and safety of our community. In all this effort, we are currently working towards a return to "normal" school.

## **General Safety of Students and Staff**

**Temperature Check:** Will be done each morning as students and staff enter the school. No students with a temperature over 100 degrees should be sent to school. Parents have in the past medicated a child to get a temperature down and then sent the individual to school. *This cannot happen for the sake of all other students and staff, especially during this pandemic.*

**Handwashing/Sanitizing:** This is our #1 strategy for safety at all levels. In school, hands will be washed/sanitized several times a day, in particular upon entering for the day.

**Masking:** Students, staff, and anyone who enters the building will be required to wear a mask with the exception of preschool students.

## **Education Options**

### **On-site Learning**

- Teachers will provide in-person instruction in core subjects and electives 5 days a week.
- Sanitizing upon entering the building and frequently.

- PreK & Kindergarten, after temperature checks, will go directly to their classrooms when they arrive at the school.
- 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades, after temperature checks, will social distance in the gym until the 8:15 bell and then will be dismissed one grade level at a time to go to class.
- 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades, after temperature checks, will social distance in the hallway by their lockers.
- Students in PreK-4<sup>th</sup> grade will have assigned seats, spaced 6 feet apart, and spend majority of the day within the homeroom classroom. Art, library, and music will come to these classrooms, and students will go to PE and computers in their normal area.
- Students in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade will have assigned seats, spaced 6 feet apart, and stay in core classes in the morning and switch rooms for core classes in the afternoon. Art and library will come to the classroom and band, PE, and computers will take place in their normal area. Lockers will be used for coats and any other items not needed in the classroom, and back packs will be taken to class.
- 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades will stay in their homeroom for core classes and move to other classrooms during electives. They will have assigned seats in all classrooms and be spaced six feet apart. Lockers will be used for coats and any other items not needed in the classroom, and backpacks will be taken to class.
- Vocal and instrumental music may be limited; however, we will be following the most current research to determine how much and where this can take place.
- Accommodations and support services provided (emotional, social, special education, intervention support, etc).
- Mass will follow current Diocesan guidelines.
- Students will bring and use water bottles and will not drink from water fountains.
- The drop-off and pick-up procedures may be altered to alleviate congestion.
- Lunch schedule and/or seating may be altered to maintain social distancing.
- Recess schedule may be altered to maintain social distancing.
- Passing periods may be staggered to minimize students in the hallway.
- Visitors will be limited to the building and will have temperature checked upon arrival and must wear a mask
- Scheduled volunteers will have temperature checked upon arrival and must wear a mask.
- No field trips away from campus or assemblies will be scheduled.
- After school care will occur with social distancing.
- 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students eligible to participate in athletic and academic competitions (Fall practice for cross country and track are planned to begin August 17<sup>th</sup>)
- Strengthened disinfecting and preventive health measures will be in place.

### **Distance Learning:**

Should a student need to be quarantined for up to 14 days, they will be provided virtual learning from home:

- iPad provided to each student PreK-12 if needed.
- Internet access required.
- Instruction in core subjects with limited electives.
- Students must have a daily connection with a teacher. Such connection can be through telephone, email, and/or interactive video conferencing.
- Participation and achievement grades will be given.

### **Sick Students and Staff**

- Temperatures will be taken at school every morning before entering school and when necessary throughout the day.
- Individuals with a temperature of 100 or higher will be sent home.

- Isolate students until parents can pick them up.
- Individuals should be fever-free for 72 hours without a use of fever reducing medicines.
- Individuals exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 without other obvious explanations are prohibited from coming to school. Current known symptoms:
  - Fever (100 or higher)
  - Chills
  - Rigors
  - Muscles and body aches
  - Fatigue
  - Headache
  - Sore throat
  - Lower Respiratory illness (cough, breath shortness)
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Diarrhea

### **Employee or Student Exhibiting COVID-19 Symptoms**

If an employee or student exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, the employee must remain at home until he or she is symptom free for 24 hours (1 full day) without the use of fever-reducing or other symptom-altering medicines (e.g., cough suppressants). The school will similarly require an employee that reports to work with symptoms to return home until they are symptom free for 24 hours (1 full day). To the extent practical, employees are required to obtain a doctor's note clearing them to return to work.

### **Employee or Student Tests Positive for COVID-19**

An employee or student that tests positive for COVID-19 will be directed to self-quarantine away from school. Employees or students that test positive and are symptom free may return to school when at least ten (10) days have passed since the date of his or her first positive test and have not had a subsequent illness. Employees or students exhibiting symptoms that test positive and are directed to care for themselves at home may return to school when: (1) at least 72 hours (3 full days) have passed since recovery; and (2) Ten (10) days have passed since symptoms first appeared. Employees or students that test positive and have been hospitalized may return to school when directed to do so by their medical care provider. Employees will be required to provide documentation clearing their return to work.

### **Protocol for Positive or Exposure**

- Notify the school office (785-238-2841)
- Consult health department
- Follow health department recommendations

### **Confirmed Case of COVID-19 in the School Building**

The school will remain open but block off areas where the person infected with COVID-19 was in the building until the area has been cleaned thoroughly. The school will work with the local health department to assess for close contacts within students and staff and inform those who are exposed that they must start a mandatory 14-day quarantine period.