



WEEKLY COMMUNICATION – SCHOOL REOPENING – PARENTS  
THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2020

***THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF YOUR CHILDREN IS OUR FIRST PRIORITY.  
You will receive an update each Thursday.***

WHAT IS CURRENTLY HAPPENING TO PREPARE PIUS XI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL TO REOPEN SAFELY IN FALL OF 2020?

**CURRENT FOCUS – PREPARATION OF THE PHYSICAL BUILDING**

- **Since we do not know today exactly how school will reopen, the Pius XI Comes Home Planning Committee is preparing for three separate scenarios that can be implemented at any time:**
  1. All students returning to campus for the traditional school year that we know.
  2. A Hybrid Model that plans for a mix of in person instruction on campus and virtual instruction This plan would be used when only 50% or less of the student population is permitted on campus at a time.
  3. A 100% virtual plan that would be implemented if schools are closed again.

**\*\*\*This committee plans the operational logistics of these scenarios. An academic planning team will plan the instructional logistics of these scenarios.**
- **Since COVID-19 is known to spread primarily through respiratory droplets, Pius XI is spending considerable time addressing **air circulation** throughout the entire campus.**
  1. A review of the school's ventilation system has been conducted.
  2. Belts and air filters on our air handling and roof top systems that supply tempered air to many of the locations in the building are being replaced. Filters with greater effectiveness in removing particles from the air stream will be installed.
  3. We are cleaning and disinfecting all of the coils in the air handling and roof top systems. The disinfectant used will leave a residue that keeps the coils clean and thus the air stream cleaner.
  4. All instructional areas in the school have been measured and are being analyzed for ability to social distance in full or partial capacity, and air circulation needs

such as windows that can be opened, air conditioning, need for fans to circulate the air.

- **Cleaning hands and surfaces is still very important. The following has been completed:**
  1. All rooms have been audited for sinks so that soap and water could be used for washing hands (preferred method) at the beginning of each class. Rooms without sinks were identified as places where hand sanitizer will be provided.
  2. Locations for additional hand sanitizer throughout the building have been identified.
  3. Spray bottles with disinfectant and towels have been ordered so that student desks can be sprayed at the end of each class.
  
- **Masks and temperature taking**
  1. All people entering the building will be required to wear masks and to have their temperature taken upon entry. This will change the morning entrance procedure. The details of that procedure are being outlined at this time. We will share procedures as they are in place.
  2. The school will provide cloth facemasks for faculty, staff and students. Students may also choose to bring their own face mask daily.
  3. Cloth masks will be collected and laundered in disinfectant detergent at the school weekly. If you are uncomfortable with this, please plan to have your child take his/her mask home and launder it.
  4. Specific directives for use of masks, social distancing, movement throughout the building, etc. will be published by August 1<sup>st</sup>. Students, faculty and staff will receive very specific training so we can all be well prepared to execute our plans.
  5. Gloves will not be required but will be available for those who feel more comfortable wearing them while at school.

\*\*\*As you know, this is still a very fluid situation. No one can tell us today the manner in which we will open. That is why we have to plan for all scenarios. We will publish information for you weekly to update you on the operational preparations. Please remember that this school year things may still look a bit different.

## **WHAT DOES THE CDC SAY ABOUT COVID 19?**

***COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly through close contact from person-to-person.*** Some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus.

We are still learning about how the virus spreads and the severity of illness it causes.

**The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.**

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
- **Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks.**
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

**The virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading very easily and sustainably between people. The virus does not spread easily in other ways**

- **From touching surfaces or objects.** It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes. **This is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads, but we are still learning more about this virus.**

### **Protect yourself and others**

**The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.** You can take steps to slow the spread.

- [Maintain good social distance](#) (about 6 feet). This is very important in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

[Wash your hands](#) often with soap and water.

### **WHAT DOES THE STATE OF WISCONSIN SAY ABOUT REOPENING?**

- The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction has not mandated regulations for how school reopening should look. The DPI has published ideas that schools can use for planning. With that in mind, each school is tasked with creating the plan that aligns best with the directives of their local health department.
- Pius XI is directed by the City of Milwaukee Health Department. The city is in phase 3 of reopening. While they give no specific directives for schools at this time, Pius XI does follow their directives closely to try to align any decisions we make. Here is the outline of the current phase three directives. <https://spark.adobe.com/page/NEQBCYInvjzQi/>

**PLEASE SEND ANY OF YOUR QUESTIONS/CONCERNS TO  
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