

Archdiocese of Washington

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July 17, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for your commitment to providing a Catholic education for your child. The effectiveness of our partnership has never been more clearly demonstrated than it was last school year. We have endured keeping the safety of our staff, students and their families as our highest priority, while also delivering high quality academic instruction and faith formation. Managing and overcoming the challenges of recent months proves that with Christ, all things are possible. Today, we move onward together in faith, as a Catholic school community to begin the 2020-21 school year.

The Catholic Schools Office (CSO) provided schools with campus reopening guidelines on July 15, 2020. The campus reopening guidelines provide the details and parameters that each school must consider as part of determining the plan to reopen their campuses, provide distance learning or a hybrid of both. Each school will now utilize the guidelines to complete their plan for campus reopening that considers specific health and safety precautions. Utilizing the social-distancing requirements, schools can plan for delivery of instruction and faith formation. Importantly, schools will seek the input of parents and guardians to determine the best path forward for a particular school community. The CSO stands ready to support each of our schools with the implementation of local plans.

New information is being presented each day about the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on school operations. The Catholic Schools Office will continue to monitor and evaluate new information and guidelines and keep our schools apprised. We will update and communicate any changes to operating guidelines, as they are known.

Sincerely in Christ,

Kelly Branaman

Interim Superintendent for Catholic Schools