

August 18, 2021



St. John Catholic School

Educational Ministry of St. John The Baptist Parish



ON THE HORIZON:

August 19th

Minimum Day (noon dismissal)

August 20th

Minimum Day (noon dismissal)

August 23rd

Regular school schedule begins
7:55am – 2:50pm

August 25th

Volunteer Fingerprinting available in the Community Meeting Room
4:30-6:30pm
(by appointment only- please email Ms. Aimee)

Cyber Safety Parent Presentation

*No in-person meeting, parent resources provided in next newsletter

Dear St. John Catholic School Family,

We have made it to the start to our 2021-2022 school year! It was a joy to greet our school family this morning and to celebrate together in morning prayer and assembly. I am grateful for the love, companionship and fellowship that is already so very evident among our school community.

While we were able to gather together for school today, we remain vigilant in our efforts to protect each other against COVID-19. I appreciate the commitment of our community to keep our most vulnerable of community members, our unvaccinated students, safe. It is imperative that we adults do all that we can to model healthy habits for our children. Wearing a mask, washing our hands and getting vaccinated are ways we can protect our students and lower the transmission rate of COVID-19 within our community.

In order to keep potential virus transmission at bay, the school will navigate upcoming school events and make changes as necessary. To begin, the previously scheduled Cyber Safety Parent Presentation will be canceled, and in its place, resources will be provided to parents within next week's newsletter. Similarly, rather than all gathering inside for Back to School Night, teachers will meet online with parents. A schedule and meeting links will be shared with parents in the weeks to come.

It is my mission to navigate this school year with both safety and community in mind. I am grateful for our community and hopeful for our future. May God bless our school and our shamrock family!

Attentively,
Ms. Paige Child
pchild@csdo.org

FOOD DROP OFF:

Parents, please note that the school will not accept snack/lunches to be dropped off in the front office. Should a child need a lunch, the school will provide one and a family will be billed.

HEALTH & SAFETY:

SJCS Covid-19 Safety Plan- <https://www.stjohncatholicschool.org/st-john-catholic-school-covid-19-safety-plan.html>

FAITH FORMATION:

Prayer and the Family Meal, 7 Fresh Ideas for Mealtimes Prayer-
<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/family/praying-as-a-family/prayer-and-the-family-meal/>

SHAMROCK SHOUTOUT:

We thank Mr. Jose Queszada for power washing our play yard Tuesday evening so that our kids would have a clean place to eat and play. Thank you for caring for our students!

UNIFORMS:

School Uniforms:

School uniforms will be required this school year. School uniforms can be purchased online through Bancroft. Bancroft Uniforms website- <https://bancroft-uniforms.com>
Code for SJCS Parents: johnsanlorenzo

PE Uniforms:

PE uniforms are optional for students.
PE Uniform Website: www.shamrockshop.store
Email-orders@shamrockshop.org
*See flyer below

CDPH FAQs ON SCHOOL GUIDANCE FOR COVID-19:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Schools-FAQ.aspx>

Back-To-School Prayer



Dear God,

Please bless all children in this new school year. Give them strength to learn, concentrate and act in love towards their classmates. Watch over them at home and at school. When days become challenging, grant them peace and relaxation, knowing that Your patience, wisdom and courage is excellent in every way. Guide them in their mind, thoughts and body so they may use the knowledge gained to build your kingdom. We thank you for this new school year and ask that you bless the students, families and faculty that make school such a wonderful place.

In your name we pray!



COVID-19 – Safety Plan 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR – PARENT/GUARDIAN

In developing plans for the 2021-2022 school year, the Diocese of Oakland is required to implement the health and safety standards established by the California Department of Public Health and/or the county in which your school is located. If there exists a conflict, the Diocese of Oakland will follow the more stringent standard. This document is incorporated by reference into the Parent–Student Handbook at the school your child/ren attends. Please thoroughly read the applicable reopening guidelines.

[CDPH COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California, 2021-22 School Year](#)
[Alameda County 2021 – 22 School Guidance](#)
[Contra Costa County COVID-19 Information & Resources](#)

Expectations for Parents/Guardians/Students/School Employees:

Parents, guardians, students and school employees must work together to create a healthy school campus. Working together requires the following:

1. Anyone entering the school campus must comply with the applicable county COVID-19 requirements. Failure to comply is a violation of law. Unless specifically exempted by the applicable county health guideline, anyone entering the school campus must wear a mask covering his/her nose and mouth. The school will limit visitors to those visits essential for the school's operations and limit the duration of time a visitor shall be on campus.
2. No parent, guardian, student, employee or visitors shall enter the school premises if that person has: (a) received a positive test result for COVID-19; (b) has sought medical treatment for COVID-19 symptoms; (c) is quarantined or self-quarantined because of COVID-19, whether diagnosed or not; or (d) has a temperature of 100 or greater. In all such cases, the person shall not enter the campus without obtaining written medical clearance and providing it to the school principal.
3. All parents, guardians, students and employees must immediately notify the school principal if a student or employee has come into contact (through living arrangements or otherwise) with any person that has: (a) received a positive test result for COVID-19; (b) has sought medical treatment for COVID-19 symptoms; or (c) is quarantined or self-quarantined because of COVID-19, whether diagnosed or not. In any of these situations, the person will not be allowed on school property, until the minimum county isolation/quarantine requirements have been met.
4. During the 2021-2022 school year, the school will require parents, guardians, students and employees to answer basic health screening questions related to COVID-19 symptoms before coming to school. Further, once present at school, if an employee, student or visitor exhibits symptoms of COVID-19, the school may conduct health screening and isolate the person, consistent with county guidelines. (No medical testing, blood or saliva draw will be performed.)

With the above guiding principles, the following are general expectations for the 2021-2022 school year:

The School Will:

1. Ensure janitorial services occur on school days after school hours.
2. Have an adequate supply of liquid soap and disinfecting supplies available for use by employees, students and janitors both in the classrooms and bathrooms.
3. Have a limited amount of surplus masks for students should they lose, soil or misplace their own masks while at school.
4. Determine when parents, guardians or visitors shall be permitted on campus, the duration of such visits, as well as what face coverings they shall be required to wear on campus. These determinations will be posted at the building entrance(s) and on the school website. The school may restrict the number of visitors to the school building, both during and after school hours. The school may refuse entry to visitors who do not comply with the county's requirements, or the school's visitor requirements.
5. Communicate in writing with employees and parents/guardians regarding protection measures for COVID-19, including changes in practices that start after the school begins.

Parents/Guardians Will:

1. Check your student for symptoms of COVID-19 daily before he/she attends school. A list of COVID-19 symptoms and a self-checker is available on the Center for Disease Control (CDC) website at [Symptoms of Coronavirus](#) and guardians are to submit any information requested by the school regarding the presence or absence of any COVID-19 symptoms before your student arrives at the school entrances. Provide students with appropriate face coverings for their nose and mouth, and clean or replace such protective coverings as necessary.
2. Provide students with personal water bottles and small bottles of liquid hand sanitizer to carry in backpacks for use in class, at lunch or during recess. Explain these water bottles and liquid hand sanitizer bottles should not be shared and should be marked with the student's initials.
3. Explain to your student the importance of wearing of face coverings when required. Explain to students the importance of not touching other students, and not touching other students' backpacks, clothing, cell phones, food or personal property.
4. Comply with all face covering requirements of the applicable county guidelines.

Principal Will:

1. Prepare plans for the operation of the school that comply with county health guidelines.
2. Supervise school teachers and staff responsible for overseeing compliance with county health guidelines.
3. Identify a location for isolation of anyone with symptoms of COVID-19. Follow the isolation procedures in the county guidelines. Promptly communicate with any parent or guardian whose student has been placed in isolation with COVID-19 symptoms.
4. Make arrangements for the cleaning of HVAC systems before beginning in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year.
5. Communicate to employees and parents/guardians in writing regarding protection measures for COVID-19, including changes in practices that occur after the start of the school year.
6. Maintain an adequate supply of face coverings and disinfectant supplies throughout the school.

Teachers and Staff Will:

1. Be available and participate in all training provided by the school regarding COVID-19. Be available and assist the principal in (a) monitoring and assessing students for COVID-19 symptoms; (b) monitoring students to wear face coverings, consistent with county health requirements
2. Require students to wear face coverings while indoors, utilizing county health and safety guidelines.
3. Maintain extra face covering supplies in the classroom and inform the principal in case of anticipated shortages.
4. Allow for adequate ventilation of classroom, including keeping windows and hallway doors open to allow air to circulate as feasible, while complying with any county fire regulations limiting open hallways doors.

Waiver and Release of Liability:

The COVID-19 pandemic has created serious, unexpected challenges for the entire world, including our schools. We are dedicated to the goal of resuming the mission of providing Catholic education in the classroom and taking reasonable mitigating measures. At the same time, there is no ability on the part of the school to guarantee a virus-free school environment.

The undersigned expressly understand and assume the risk of contracting COVID-19. Further, the undersigned expressly waives and releases any and all claims or lawsuits against the Diocese of Oakland, its affiliated corporations, parishes or schools, including clergy, agents and employees, arising from or related to alleged negligence concerning any type of harm or injury caused by COVID-19. This waiver of liability and release shall be enforced to the full extent permitted by California law. Parents/guardians signing this waiver and release of liability are signing both on behalf of their children and themselves.

Parent/Guardian Names: _____

Parent/Guardian Signatures: _____

Student Names: _____

Date: _____
