



St. Augustine Catholic School

67901 Howard St. Richmond, MI 48062

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April 2, 2020

Dear SAS Families,

As you are aware, Governor Whitmer has ordered all schools to stay closed for the remainder of the academic year. As stated in the letter you have already received from the Superintendent of the Department of Catholic Schools, we are committed to continue educating your students to the fullest extent possible. Our staff has been meeting regularly and teachers are prepared to continue online instruction for the remainder of the year under these circumstances.

Please be aware of the following:

Homebased / Online Learning:

- Students will continue learning online in accordance with the schedule we have already established: Monday-Friday, with teachers on duty from 8:00-3:00 each day.
- Student work will continue to be due on Fridays by 3:00.
- All teachers will continue to post weekly checklists on their google sites.
- Additional packets are not able to be distributed at this time, since teachers do not have access to our school building. All lower elementary instruction will be delivered online. Teachers will provide parents with instructions as to how the work will be submitted.
- 4th-8th grade teachers will continue to post assignments in google classroom for students. Students will turn in assignments via google classroom, rather than by email. If there is a technical issue with doing so, please notify the teacher.
- It is likely that teachers will check in with students via scheduled live sessions using either Zoom or Google Meet if they haven't already done so.
- Grading will continue as normal. It is critical that students submit their work on time. It is particularly difficult for teachers to assess learning if work is not submitted. In a traditional classroom setting, teachers are able to observe students working each day. When students are completing work online from home,



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observation of the work process is inaccessible; therefore submitted work is the only means of evaluating progress.

2020-2021 Registration:

- Enrollment for next year will be accepted by either US mail or email. Tuition contracts can be sent either method. The early registration fee of \$60 will be extended until April 10. Registration fees can either be paid by placing a check in the mail or by authorizing a FACTS payment in writing (email is acceptable). We encourage early registration, since it is essential that we begin planning for fall as much as possible.

There are many updates to come regarding other events and activities that were planned. We will attempt to carry out some of these events using virtual platforms. Our inability to resume the school year in person is a tremendous loss for all of us. Students are missing time with their friends and are unable to experience the valuable time we spend together as a school community when we are together. Our teachers are mourning the loss of traditional classroom time and fellowship with students. We recognize that there are many events that simply cannot take place online, many of which we all looked forward to. We know though, that our priority must be to keep our families safe and healthy. Remember that our children learn from our reaction to all circumstances. St. Augustine School will make the best of this unfortunate and unforeseen situation. Even though we have no control over what has happened, remember that God is in control, and good will come of it in our lives if we allow Him to work. Again, as we say as a school each morning, St. Augustine, pray for us.

Sincerely,

Emily Lenn

Principal