



Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic School

Dear **Sts. Peter and Paul** Families,

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying the first few weeks of summer. Given Governor DeSantis's message that schools will re-open in the State of Florida this fall, I know many of you are wondering what that might look like at **Sts. Peter and Paul**. As we continue to learn more from healthcare professionals and seek guidance from the Archdiocesan office, we continue to plan for fall with a proactive approach to keep our students healthy and safe. The Florida Department of Education has described the re-opening of schools as using a "dimmer switch" approach. This great analogy helps set expectations that the plans and procedures to re-open our campus will evolve as conditions in the community mandate.

Schools are scheduled to begin on August 19th. There will be three options for students in the Fall of 2020:

- Students returning to campus, join their teachers and classmates in their designated classrooms
- Virtual instruction where students join their classmates via the internet
- Blended instruction where students are in the classroom some days and at home on others

Initial procedures for re-opening school:

- Students and employees will be required to wear appropriate face coverings while on the campus including in the classrooms.
- Students will report directly to their homeroom classes. Morning prayer, pledge, and announcements will be broadcast over the PA system. (Prayer in the courtyard will be suspended until it is safe for large group gatherings.)
- School Masses will be celebrated on a rotating grade level basis. For example, middle school will attend the first school Mass of the month, intermediate grades the second Mass, primary grades the third Mass and so on. School masses will be closed to the public. School Masses will be live-streamed into the classrooms and school community.
- In order to minimize exposure, only students and staff will be permitted to enter the school building. Since volunteers/visitors will be denied access to the school initially, the requirement for volunteer hours will be suspended until further notice.
- Classrooms will be provided extra supplies of sanitary wipes and hand sanitizer.
- Janitorial and maintenance staff will assist with sanitizing the classrooms, restrooms, and playground equipment throughout each day.
- Classrooms with student desks will be arranged in single rows with all students facing the front of the classroom. Students' work areas will be arranged to ensure maintenance of social distancing as per CDC guidelines to help minimize interactive exposure.

- One-way directional signage will be displayed in hallways to assist with travel patterns.
- Instruction for special classes (art, music, PE) will be provide in the homeroom in order to minimize movement of students throughout the school facility.
- Students will still participate in regularly scheduled recess. To reduce the number of students in any one location at a given time, one class at a time will attend recess.
- Drop-off and dismissal procedures for parents are being evaluated. In order to take student's temperatures, the arrival and dismissal could be staggered. Please anticipate that both morning drop-off and pick-up may take a little longer. Your patience and cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Details regarding school sports, Extended Care, Open House, Back-to-School nights, etc. are still to be determined. We await more information from the State Health Department and the FLDOE; plans are still fluid and may be revised as necessary. The intent of this letter is to share our initial protocols for starting school August 19th.

Since March, we have all faced extraordinary challenges that have tested our adaptability, our spirit, and our resolve as a community. I am so proud of how the resilience, determination, and character of our **Sts. Peter and Paul** family has shined bright regardless of our circumstances. We are a parish and school community, united in our mission to know, love, and serve God, by loving and serving others.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions.

Healthy blessings,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jocelyn Zlatkin, Ed.S.", with a stylized, cursive script.

Jocelyn Zlatkin, Ed.S.

Principal