



Reopening Plan 2020-2021

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Section I: Program Operations

In-person Learning with Virtual Option

Holy Redeemer will open with a choice of in-person or virtual instruction, but the following preventative safety measures will be in place.

1. Students will enter the building through their classroom's exterior door and remain in the classroom with their cohort while teachers rotate as needed (specials, middle school subject area teachers).
2. Classrooms will be modified to allow social distancing of 6 feet and face coverings will be required.
3. Additional classrooms have been added to Preschool and Kindergarten to allow social distancing.
4. All staff and students will have a daily arrival screening before entering the building each day.
5. Cohorts should remain cohesive with no mixing of other students throughout the day.
6. Outdoor breaks are scheduled to occur multiple times throughout the day.

Instruction will occur in this manner and reviewed frequently. In a Post-Pandemic situation, classroom instruction and student flow will return to normal operations. If the campus is closed due to local, state, or federal mandates, Distance Learning will be implemented.

Arrival

Arrival times will be staggered with 4 different arrival times. The usual drop-off line will no longer go through the church parking lot. Detailed information on the arrival procedures will be provided before the school year begins. Students will enter the exterior door of their individual classrooms.

Parents must take their child(ren)'s temperature before leaving for school and notify the school of any symptoms. Any students with temperatures of 100° or higher must remain home.

Faculty and staff will be strategically positioned around the morning carpool line to efficiently and quickly check temperatures and ask health screening questions. If a student's temperature is above 100°, the student will be sent home immediately with their carpool.

Classroom teachers will be equipped with touchless thermometers at the exterior door of their classroom where all students including walkers will have their temperatures checked and recorded. If a student's temperature is above 100° the nurse will be called and will escort the student into the nurse's office until someone can pick them up. Parents/guardians must ensure they are available by phone in case their child needs to return home. Please update all primary and secondary emergency contact information.

Students and teachers will exit their cars wearing face coverings. All students and faculty are required to wear a face covering at all times while inside the school building. If an individual forgets their mask, the nurse's office will provide a replacement.

Students arriving after 8:20 will report to the main entrance for a temperature screening and will be guided to their classroom by the nurse or administrative staff.

Teachers will have their temperatures taken and recorded each morning.

Volunteers and Visitors

All visitors and volunteers must wear a face covering and have their temperature taken and recorded as they enter the building. Holy Redeemer will limit visitors to essential visitors and emergencies.

Dismissal

Classes end at 2:55 p.m. Afternoon prayers begin at 2:57p.m. Dismissal will begin right after prayers. Patrols will be dismissed from homerooms early to get to their designated posts. **All homeroom teachers must supervise children.** Family names will be called on the intercom to dismiss those particular students from their individual classrooms. A faculty patrol will be waiting to direct students from their exterior doors toward the parking lot safely. Faculty will walk all students to their cars. Parents should remain in their vehicles. Family “name plates” will be placed in the windshield of vehicles for quicker identification.

At 3:15 p.m., teachers must report any remaining students to the main office, who will **contact the parents.** If the parents have not arrived by 3:25 p.m., teachers may release the students from their exterior door for Mr. Corrigan to monitor.

Teachers should exit the building by 4:00 each day to allow the cleaning crew to begin disinfecting.

Before and After School Programs

At this time there will be no Before/After Care, band, or after-school clubs. We will review this policy frequently to begin these activities as soon as they are feasible.

Section II: Facility Usage

Classrooms

To adhere to social distancing guidelines, additional classrooms have been made available for Preschool and Kindergarten classes. Three PreK 3, three PreK 4, and four Kindergarten classrooms are now available to accommodate our students. The 5th grade will use the Herb Young Auditorium (HYA) for their classroom this year to accommodate their large class size. The 4th grade will utilize the modular classroom.

All students and faculty are required to wear a face covering while inside the school building. If an individual loses their mask, the nurse's office will provide a replacement.

Classrooms with desks will have desks marked off and placed 6 feet from each other, and individual student belongings will be kept at each student's desk. This includes water bottles, backpacks, lunches, coats, and school supplies.

Specials will not be held in their usual spaces. Instead specials teachers will rotate to homeroom classes to prevent cohorts from moving through the hall or into other spaces.

Middle school teachers will change classrooms instead of students.

Some classroom bookshelves may be moved to storage spaces to allow more distance between students. Bean bags, centers tables, and other furniture may be removed and stored for future use.

Recess and Physical Education

Students will continue to wear their face coverings while outside for recess and PE. If there are multiple student cohorts in the same outdoor space, a 30-foot distance must be kept between the groups.

Extra recess and play time will be scheduled to increase physical activity and movement. Each class will be given its own recess equipment.

PE will be held outside as often as weather permits. Equipment will not be used during PE for the start of the year. If any equipment is used, the PE equipment will be sanitized after each class by the PE teacher and PE assistant. Upon lining up to return to the building, students will sanitize their hands as they enter the building through their classroom's rear door.

Lunch

Lunch has traditionally been eaten in the classroom; this will continue. Classes may eat outside if possible. As of now no hot lunch or milk service will be provided. We will review this policy frequently to begin these services as soon as they are feasible.

Water

Water bottle refilling stations are replacing the old drinking fountains. All bathroom faucets will be replaced with touchless faucets. Students will bring their own water bottles filled each day. If a student loses or forgets their water bottle a plastic water bottle will be provided by the school.

Section III: Health and Safety

Teachers and Students

Teachers will provide in class education and demonstrations of proper handwashing.

Teachers will (and parents are encouraged to) talk with students about how to stay healthy – avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth and covering their cough.

Face coverings must be worn at all times when inside the building. One neck gaiter (face covering) will be provided for each student with the opportunity to purchase more through the school. Exemptions for wearing a face covering will be determined by 2 people at the school: The Principal and a Nurse.

FACE COVERINGS WILL NOT BE WORN DURING SNACK OR LUNCH. 6 Feet must be maintained during these times.

Families need to be aware of symptoms that indicate a student should stay home. **Please take your child's temperature daily, especially before leaving for school.** Parents and students are encouraged to self-report symptoms of illness which could involve fever or cough. **Please DO NOT give fever-reducing medication to your child prior to arrival.**

All parents should know symptoms related to COVID-19. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath, difficulty breathing

- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Per the CDC, students/staff MUST be fever/symptom free for at least 72 hours prior to returning to school. Students will be required to have a note from their healthcare provider before returning.

Holy Redeemer must notify the Maryland Department of Health and the Archdiocese of Washington. These officials will determine a course of action for the individual to return to school and for those who may have been in close contact with the person exhibiting symptoms. Holy Redeemer will follow guidance from officials on quarantines, readmission, and sanitization requirements.

If Student or Staff Reports Contact with COVID-19 Case

If any student or staff member has been in close contact with a person who is positive for COVID-19, then the child or staff member must not access the premises or enter the facility until evaluated by their healthcare provider, or until they have completed their quarantine period without becoming symptomatic or diagnosed with COVID-19.

If any student or staff member has been in close contact with a person who is awaiting a COVID-19 test result, then the student or staff member must not access the premises or enter the facility until the close contact tests negative. If the close contact tests positive, then they must seek guidance from their healthcare provider and follow Maryland Health Department requirements.

If a student or staff member contracts COVID-19, they will need to provide a doctor's note stating they are cleared to return to work/school or a COVID-19 test with a negative result.

Maintain Confidentiality

Parents are encouraged to help their child, in an age appropriate way, and understand the confidentiality policies regarding the health status of a student, parent or employee, to ensure that this information is not inadvertently shared.

At the same time, Holy Redeemer encourages employees, students and families to self-report consistent with applicable laws and regulations, if they or a child have symptoms of COVID-19, a positive test for COVID-19, or were exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the last 14 days in accordance with health information sharing regulations for COVID-19.

Children at higher risk for severe illness will have the choice of distance learning and be given seating preference that accommodates his or her needs.

Hygiene

Parents are encouraged to promote healthy hygiene in the family. Healthy hygiene includes social distancing and wearing a face covering.

Students should be encouraged to wash their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after school, or after blowing their nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, children over five years of age should use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Students aged five and under should use a baby-wipe, NEVER hand sanitizer. Students should be encouraged to avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Students and staff will be encouraged to wash/sanitize their hands during the school day. For example: Students and staff must wash hands/use hand sanitizer regularly throughout the day.

- Arrival
- Before and after putting on, touching, or removing cloth face coverings or touching their face
- After blowing their nose, coughing, or sneezing
- After using shared materials
- After using the restroom
- Before lunch and snack time
- Before and after recess

Social Distancing

Social distancing, also called “physical distancing,” means keeping space between yourself and other people outside of your home. Parents are encouraged to teach and practice social distancing with their child before the first day of school.

To practice social or physical distancing stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms’ length) from other people. In addition to everyday steps to prevent COVID-19, keeping space between you and others is one of the best tools we have to avoid being exposed to this virus and slowing its spread locally and across the country and world.

Limit close contact with others outside your household in indoor and outdoor spaces. Since people can spread the virus before they know they are sick, it is important to stay away from others when possible, even if you—or they—have no symptoms.

Social distancing must be observed at all times. **Intentional violation of social distancing guidelines may result in disciplinary actions.**

Protecting Children at Higher Risk for Severe Illness

Individuals with underlying medical issues may be at a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Underlying medical conditions include people with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma, serious heart conditions, immuno-compromised, severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher), diabetes, chronic kidney disease and undergoing dialysis, and liver disease.

Parents of students with underlying health conditions are encouraged to discuss their child’s return to school with their health care provider BEFORE the beginning of the school year. Please contact the principal regarding support for students with underlying health conditions.

Students with Asthma

From the CDC: Planning and Responding to COVID-19 People with moderate to severe asthma may be at higher risk of getting very sick from COVID19. First, students with symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend school. Symptoms of asthma and COVID-19 may overlap, including cough and shortness of breath. Therefore, students experiencing acute asthma attacks should not be attending school without

approval by a healthcare provider; if an asthma attack starts at school, a student may need a bronchodilator treatment before being sent home or before an ambulance arrives.

The American Lung Association recommends using inhalers with disposable spacers/mouthpieces and nebulizers with disposable tubing with mask/mouthpieces. During this COVID-19 pandemic, asthma treatments using inhalers with spacers (with or without face mask, according to each student's individualized treatment plan) are preferred over nebulizer treatments, whenever possible. Based on limited data, use of asthma inhalers (with or without spacers or face masks) is not considered an aerosol-generating procedure.

Parents of students who use nebulizers, are encouraged to consult with their healthcare provider to transition to use the medication as a metered dose inhaler (MDI) and a spacer.

Immunizations

Parents are required to maintain the proper schedule for immunizations. Please work with your healthcare providers to schedule appointments, attend well-child visits and make sure children get back on track with any overdue vaccinations, as soon as possible.

Nurse's Station

School nurses will be equipped with all necessary PPE and supplies to adhere to the posted flowcharts and printed guidelines for handling a suspected case of COVID-19.

A 10' x 10' canopy tent with sidewalls will be available behind the nurses' office to serve as our isolation room. The isolation room will contain a cot, necessary medical supplies, and PPE.

Holy Redeemer has ordered and/or received sufficient PPE, disinfecting supplies, temperature scanning equipment, and health room supplies.

Facilities

Handwashing signs will be posted in the bathrooms. Sanitizer stations will be positioned outside of all bathrooms and at the exterior doors of each classroom.

Additional cleaning and disinfecting times will be scheduled for the bathrooms and other frequently contacted areas. Classrooms, hallways, and bathrooms will be disinfected by the maintenance staff after school each day. A disinfectant fogging machine will be used after school daily to sanitize the interior.

Mental Health

The virus, the shutdowns and the changes in school procedures have had and will continue to have an impact. In order to calm fears and nurture our students' and our communities' mental well-being, Holy Redeemer will foster a sense of connectedness, provide clear directions and communication, use playfulness and positivity whenever possible, maintain access to counseling services, and integrate social emotional skills into learning activities. Parents are encouraged to contact Mary Ellen Bombara with specific questions or concerns – ME.Bombara@Hrs-Ken.org.

Health Related Questions

As always parents should contact their healthcare provider regarding any health-related concerns or

questions. Parents can provide updates and information regarding their child's health to Alana Pitcher, nurses@hrs-ken.org

Section IV: Catholic Identity

School Masses will continue throughout the school year. In order to assure the safety of students and staff, these Masses will be livestreamed into classrooms. Each Mass will be hosted by a different class who will socially distance in the church in order to participate in the readings and intentions. We will review this policy frequently and make changes as soon as they are feasible.

Father Hughes and Father Ebuka will consider celebrating the Eucharist with students in their individual classrooms following Mass as frequently as possible.

Morning, lunch, and dismissal prayers will continue to be said daily over the intercom system to provide whole school prayer. Service/Outreach opportunities will be decided and executed by the Faith in Action Team (FIAT) in accordance with the current guidelines.

Section V: Academics

Professional development and scholarly articles will be available for teachers and parents for references and guidance for online safety. Students will receive education of online safety during their computer classes.

We are planning on a one-to-one ratio of Chromebooks for 5th - 8th grade students this year. These students will be able to take their devices and chargers home to complete online homework. All students will be required to sign and adhere to the updated technology agreement.

At the moment we do not have enough Chromebooks for grades 1-4. However, we will provide an opportunity for families to purchase a new Chromebook, complete with all necessary program, apps, and Holy Redeemer network capabilities. More information on this will be provided before the start of the school year.

Our resource teachers will meet with students with learning accommodations and CAP plans in person in compliance with current guidelines or one-on-one Zoom meetings depending on the needs and preference of the student.

Scantron Testing

Students must be assessed upon their return to school in math and reading using the Performance Series Express. This test provides a shorter, 25-question version of Scantron's Performance Series computer-adaptive diagnostic assessment while still providing the same reports and measurement scores.

Section VI: Scheduling and Orientation

The week of August 24th will be used as an orientation period, to allow students and faculty to learn and adjust to the changes for the school year. The focus of this week will be to acclimate the students and faculty to the new routines and procedures. In addition, attention will be directed toward building the desired social and emotional environment needed for students to feel safe, supported, and happy.

All parent meetings, including Back to School Night and High School Information Night, are being planned for both in-person and virtual settings to meet the situation at the time leading up to the event.

During the first week of school, teachers will lead students through in-person and virtual orientations from within the classroom to answer any questions and clarify expectations. Teachers will also prepare students to be ready to transition to full distance or hybrid learning in case of a local, state, or federal mandate. Schedules and procedures for distance learning have been updated to increase instructional face time, teacher office hours, and a singular educational platform per grade level.

Faculty will continue to participate in professional development in engaging students during distance learning.

Section VII: ADW Catholic Schools Office & Task Force

This proposal meets all Catholic school requirements as mandated by state, county, or city orders. Additionally, it meets all local health department guidelines and Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Schools Office reopening Task Force guidelines.

All plans have been developed, reviewed, and approved by the 2020-21 Holy Redeemer Reopening Task Force. Task Force members:

- Father Mark Hughes
- Principal Tommy Corrigan
- Vice Principal Mark Crimans
- Pre-K Director Debbie Monahan
- John Fisher (Out-going SAB President)
- Nurse Melissa Talley
- Nurse Alana Pitcher
- HSA President Lisa Manfreda
- SAB President Tim Harper
- Magda Mooers (SAB Secretary)
- Linda Grant (Teacher Representative)
- Katie May (Catholic Identity)
- John Rubin
- Nora McDonnell
- Moira McCarthy

All necessary information and data will be stored as physical and digital copies to use for reporting as requested by the Parish, Archdiocese, County, and/or State officials.

Right to Amend

The pastor/principal leadership team reserve the right to amend or recall this addendum in part or entirely for just cause. Parents will be informed or any updates.