

# St. Michael School

## Return to School Plan for 2021-22

Revised August 20, 2021

### Before School RESUMES

- Ensure that your family has a plan ready in case your child has to stay home due to illness or unexpected school closure.
- Know that we are doing everything we can to ensure your child(ren)'s safety and education while staying in compliance with health guidelines as they change.
- Practicing with your child(ren) will help them transition into the new expectations more smoothly.
  - You can practice the following with your child(ren):
    - maintaining a positive attitude towards helping to keep others safe
    - Hand washing for 20 seconds with soap and water
    - using hand sanitizer
    - covering coughs/sneezes with a tissue
    - 3 or 6-foot socially distancing (Depending on the transmission level the county is in)

### School Procedures: Daily Health Screenings and Arrival

- DUE TO COVID-19, WE NEED TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO KEEP OUR FAMILIES, FACULTY, AND STAFF SAFE AS WE AWAIT AN END TO THIS PANDEMIC. PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILD(REN) HOME IF THEY ARE SICK.
- Follow the Illness Guide in the handbook to determine if your child(ren) should stay home.
- Parents/guardians, please keep your child home if they are sick with any illness or exposed to COVID-19. Families should monitor students' health and keep them home if they have a fever of 100.4 degrees F or greater or any signs of illness.
- The students will be greeted at the Orchard Street entrance in the morning, but temperatures will *not* be taken at school unless we feel a need to do so at a later time. Please be vigilant at home about screening your child(ren) before bringing or sending them to school.
  - A student must be fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medicine to enter the building.
  - Students will be monitored throughout the day for symptoms.
  - Students arriving late must report to the top door of the school to sign in. (Use the buzz-in entry – Door #1.)
- Students will be entering the buildings through different entrances based on the classroom they are in and *will report directly to their classroom:*
  - PreK3 and 4 – Door #3

- Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Orchard Street Entrance Door #4

### School Procedures: Hygiene

- While on school transportation, all students will be required to wear a mask as per state mandates.
  - As per recent CDC guidelines: “Due to the circulating and highly contagious Delta variant, CDC recommends universal indoor masking by all students (age 2 and older), staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.”
  - Student will *not* be required to wear a mask outdoors. This could change according to transmission levels. Changes will be communicated to families via the OptionC parent alert system.
  - All desks in the classroom are at least 3 feet apart.
  - We ask that each student have an extra mask in their backpack if possible. We will have some disposable masks available if a student is in need of a mask.
- We have received funds from a COVID-19 Grant to purchase cleaning and sanitizing supplies as well as personal protective equipment.
  - Frequent hand washing and hand sanitizing will be implemented throughout the school day.
    - Students and staff will wash their hands or sanitize before and after meals and recess.
    - No-touch hand sanitizer dispensers have been installed.
    - Bottle refilling stations have been installed.
  - Hygiene posters are displayed throughout the building.
  - Students will be trained on hygiene standards. (Teach and reinforce washing hands, properly wearing masks, social distancing, and covering coughs and sneezes.)

### School Procedures: Classroom Space/Physical Distancing

- Interactions between groups/classes will be limited.
  - Lunches, restroom breaks, and recess times will be scheduled to limit interaction between classes in the hallways and outdoors.
  - Students will report directly to their classrooms in the morning through designated doors.
- All desks in the classrooms are to be at least three feet apart.

### School Procedures: Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Buildings have been deep cleaned over the summer months.

- WEATHER PERMITTING - We will begin each day by ventilating the building by opening all possible windows. The windows will remain open as long as possible.
- Staff members will be trained in cleaning, sanitizing, disinfection, and ventilation.
- Cleaning and disinfecting supplies have been purchased through a COVID-19 Grant.
- Frequently touched surfaces and objects in the school will be cleaned and disinfected according to current CDC recommendations.

### School Procedures: Quarantine

- An empty classroom on the bottom floor of the building, away from other students and staff, has been designated as an isolation room for a student or staff member who may arrive sick or become sick. Please enter at the Orchard Street Entrance Door #4.
- If a student or staff member has a fever or is showing signs /symptoms, a family member will be notified immediately for them to be transported home. The school nurse will also be contacted. The nurse will contact the Department of Health when it is necessary to do so.
- Students and staff members exposed to COVID-19 are to be quarantined according to current PADOH guidelines and should not come to school until cleared by a physician. The school nurse will be notified, and she will report to the Department of Health. The Department of Health or the school nurse will notify anyone in close contact with the individual. The CSO will also be notified.
- Arrangements will be made for students to work from home if they are quarantined.
- We are asking families to remain attentive to the cases in the county. Our actions outside of school can lead to cases in school. Together, if we continue to take every precaution in and outside of school, we may be able to remain in-person for instruction. Please remain vigilant and take every precaution for the sake of our children and the entire school community.

### School Procedures: During the School Day

- Weather permitting, recess and gym class will be held outside.
- Staff members are encouraged to take the students outside for breaks and classes.
- Students will have physical movement/brain breaks throughout the day.
- The water fountains will be turned off, but the bottle fillers will remain on.
  - All students are asked to bring a filled screw-top water bottle each day.
- Lunch will be in the classrooms.

- Desks will be cleaned before and after eating.
- Students will maintain socially distancing for lunch and will not share food.
- Teachers may choose to take students outside for lunch.
  
- We will ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing or limit use of supplies and equipment by one group of students at a time and clean and disinfect between use.
  
- All visitors and/or volunteers will only enter the building through Door #1 upon approval and must be wearing a mask while in the building.
  
- We will restrict nonessential visitors from entering the building.

**Instruction Procedures:**

- At this time, we will provide full in-person learning.
  
- If a child is isolated or quarantined, they will switch to remote learning. All other requests will be on a case-by-case basis. If a child is sick, they are encouraged to take the day off school and make up their work per Student Handbook recommendations.