st.paul lutheran

church & school



**St. Paul Lutheran 2020-21 School Opening FAQs Updated**

Dear St. Paul Families,

The Reopening Committee has worked long hours putting different scenarios together and keeping up with what the Illinois State Board of Education was suggesting. Guidelines have been put together for non-public schools in Illinois. I will provide a website for you to read at the end of the Questions and Answers.

We have prepared this FAQ after reading the state guidelines for our school reopening. This too can change in the upcoming weeks. In the meantime, we are moving forward with plans to reopen on Tuesday, August 18th, with in-school education. Please reach out to the committee with any concerns or further questions at [reopen@stpaulaurora.org](mailto:reopen@stpaulaurora.org).

Peace in Christ,

Diane Katz, Principal

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| What health screen measure will be implemented before students enter the building? | All students entering our campus will have their temperature taken and provide a signed health screening form. Preschool thru 8th grade will have their health screening taken at the carline before entering the building or at Door #6 for extended care. |
| What conditions or requirements will be in place for students who simply become ill and need to remain at home?  72 hours is mandated now by ISBE. | We are asking that students be fever free for 72 hours without the use of fever reducing medication before returning to school. If your child has above 99.9 fever, we call home.  If a child exhibits any of the following symptoms: fever, cough, difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, or diarrhea – the child must be COVID-19 tested and stay at home until you hear test results. Please notify office if COVID-19 testing has been done. |
| What procedures will be in place for students who become ill during the school day? | As in previous years, we will notify the parent(s) that they will have to come to the school office to pick up their child. No one will be able to enter the office while child is being isolated. The office will then be sanitized. |
| Is a school required to transition to remote instruction if an individual who was in the building tests positive for COVID-19? | No. Only those individuals with close contact with someone who tested positive or who is suspected of having COVID-19 are required to self-quarantine for 14 days. The school will provide remote instruction to students who are self-quarantining, if they are well enough to engage in learning. Teachers and staff who are self-quarantining may continue to work remotely if they are well enough to do so. |
| Who will be permitted to enter the building during the school day? | We will restrict access to the building to students, staff, and essential delivery services. Temperatures and a health screening will be conducted before a person is admitted to the school building.  Visitors will be prohibited from entering the building without explicit invitation. Emergency visitation will be allowed. All permitted visitors will have their temperature checked prior to entry. |
| Are all individuals in a school building required to wear a face covering at all times? | Yes. As required by IDPH, except while eating, face coverings must be worn at all times in school buildings, even when social distance is maintained. All individuals over 2 years of age in a school building must wear a face covering unless they have a medical contraindication. |
| Are face coverings required when individuals are outside? | Face coverings are not required outside if social distance (6 feet apart) is maintained. |
| Can face shields be used in lieu of face coverings? | No. Face shields are not effective protection against coronavirus. |
| Will students have specials and how will this work as compared to previous years? | Yes, we will have special classes which will be integrated into curriculum by homeroom teacher. |
| Will the students have chapel each Wednesday and Faith Fridays? | Yes, we will have chapel and Faith Fridays. It will be through Facebook Live and done virtually to the classroom SmartBoard. |
| What sanitation policies and practices will be in place for:  -Handwashing  -Recess  -High traffic areas and surfaces | -Handwashing will be done multiple times throughout the day. Most of the classrooms have sinks. Hand sanitizer dispenser will be placed just inside the rooms that don’t have sinks for the student to use upon re-entering their classroom.  -Recesses will be by individual classes and will be staggered. Classes will be playing in different areas of our property.  -High traffic/High touch surfaces will be cleaned at various times during the day. |
| Will there be Study Hall this year? | We will not begin the school year offering study hall after school Monday-Thursday. A student can make arrangements to meet with the teacher after school. |
| Should a shelter in place be ordered again, what is the plan for distance learning? | Teachers will implement remote learning using Google Classroom/Zoom Meetings as was successfully done in the Spring should it become necessary. |
| What measures are being put in place to maintain distance between grade levels/groups? | Grade levels will not be able to have recess or specials with each other according to the guidelines. The guidelines emphasize keeping grade levels and groups separated from one another during the course of the day. |
| Will students be able to use water fountains? | Students will not be able to drink from water fountains, but they will be able to utilize the water fountain for the filling of water bottles. |
| What will classroom restroom procedures be? | Restrooms use will be conducted under the supervision of the teacher. Only 3 students will be allowed into each restroom at a time. Students will not be allowed to use the restroom outside of the designated bathroom schedule established by the teacher at various times during the day. Obviously, emergency situations occur during the day. In those situations, teachers will allow the student to use the bathroom as deemed necessary. |
| Will there be large scale events like Backpack/Ice Cream Night or Curriculum Night? | Events of this nature will not be planned at the present time. There will be a Supply Drop-Off Day on Thursday, 8/13, by appointment only to come see the teacher and classroom. Curriculum night will be done remotely through Google Classroom/Zoom Meeting on Thursday, August 27th at 6:30 P.M. |
| What is the plan for athletics? | We do not have an update on this at the present time. We are awaiting a decision from the athletic conference. |
| Will a blended or online learning module be offered in the fall? | We are currently constructing a plan for blended learning, should the need for this program become necessary. |
| How often will the classrooms and building be sanitized? | Classrooms will be cleaned twice during the day. Washrooms will be cleaned and sanitized at mid-day. On a nightly basis, every classroom and common area will be cleaned and sanitized. |
| How will student birthdays be handled? | Until further notice, please **send** in **individually prepackaged** birthday treats enough for just your child’s classroom. The teacher will pass out the treats. |
| Will students be able to go on fieldtrips? | No, not at this time. Teachers will conduct virtual fieldtrips in the subject area. |

You may reference the Illinois State Board of Education guidelines at:

Part 3 Transition Guidance: Starting the 2020-21 School Year

<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Part-3-Transition-Planning-Phase-4.pdf>