



August 5, 2021

Parents,

COVID-19 has been part of our ongoing conversations this summer. Keeping our students and teachers safe and healthy has always been a priority, especially during the times of COVID-19.

This summer we have had conversations with parish and school leadership, school commission, and the School District of New Berlin to determine a starting point for our COVID-19 protocols moving into the 2021-22 school year. One of our goals is to stay as consistent as possible with the School District of New Berlin, while being able to adjust independently if the need arises.

**As we begin the school year, we will be updating the COVID-19 protocols as follows:**

- It is imperative that families keep sick children home, especially if they have symptoms of COVID-19. We continue to encourage families to conduct self-checks of their students before sending them to school. Testing is encouraged for all students with COVID-19 symptoms. This partnership will be extremely important as we move into fall or if COVID-19 community spread continues to rise.
- Masking will be **recommended** for teachers and students in our building to start the school year. Masks, however, are still **required** on buses, per a federal mandate, and we encourage all students who ride the bus to always have at least one mask with them.
- If there is a positive COVID-19 case in our building, we will conduct contact tracing to the best of our ability and contact families of students who are considered close contacts. We will recommend quarantining for those who are considered to have a close contact exposure at school. We will also continue to share COVID-19 case / quarantine data through the dashboard in the Messenger.
- If there is a positive COVID-19 exposure in the home or an extended close contact outside of school, we require unvaccinated students to quarantine at home. Once isolated from the COVID-19 positive family member, students will be welcomed back after 7 days plus a negative test or 10 days with no symptoms.
- We will continue to encourage hand sanitizing and cleaning protocols, similar to last school year.

- At this time, we will be removing the social distancing restrictions. Students will change classrooms for specials and lunch will be run as it was prior to last year. Also, field trips, assemblies, and Mass will all return to normal.
- Virtual instruction will look a bit different this year and will only be offered to students who test positive for COVID-19 or for those who need to quarantine due to an exposure.

Please note that our protocols and overall response to the pandemic will continue to evolve as necessary. Classroom or school-wide protocol changes may be made at any time and will be communicated either in the Messenger or via email.

Thank you for your support and understanding as we continue to navigate through the ever-changing COVID-19 landscape. We look forward to a great year driven by our faith in Christ, our strong community, and academic growth.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KLL', written in a cursive style.

Mrs. Kristin Lee