



SAINT ROSE
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Pursuing excellence in faith, knowledge, and virtue.

July 20, 2020,

St. Rose Catholic School families,

I hope that you are all having a safe and enjoyable summer. I know that it has been challenging this summer, especially lately as our nation's, state's, and county's cases of COVID - 19 have risen dramatically. When I began writing this newsletter last Wednesday, I did not see Governor Newsom's recent mandate coming during his July 17, 2020 news conference. The format and information in this letter changed considerably.

I wanted to thank you for those who responded to my July 16 "Mid Summer Parent Survey." Unfortunately, many of those questions and comments became a moot point with **Gavin Newsom's Friday, July 17, 2020 announcement that all K - 12 schools, public and private, that operate for in-person instruction within a county that is on the Governor's Monitoring List may not resume in-person instruction until the county has been off of the monitoring list for a minimum of 14 days.** For more information regarding this process, please see the California Department of Public Health's [COVID - 19 and Reopening In-Person Learning Framework for K - 12 Schools in California, 2020 - 2021 School Year](#). (Note: I've spent quite a bit of time in the past few days in touch with multiple people regarding Friday's announcement from Governor Newsom. These range from our Superintendent of Schools, Kimberly Cheng, our Diocesan legal counsel, Susan Mayer, San Luis Obispo County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jim Brescia, to San Luis Obispo County Public Health Officer, Dr. Borenstein. One of the ideas that some people have is that private or parochial schools are exempt from Governor Newsom's mandate. **As this is a Public Health Emergency, all schools in those counties on the Governor's Monitoring List are required to abide by it.**)

Families with students in our Pre-K program will be happy to know that this mandate currently does not apply to Preschools. As of this writing, I plan to move forward with our preschool program following the protocols outlined in our 2020 - 2021 School Operations Plan. More information will be forthcoming to preschool families in the coming weeks. I was able to reach clarity and confirmation on the opening of preschool programs this afternoon.

My goal and intent are for St. Rose Catholic School to resume as specified in the 2020 - 2021 School Operations Plan (edits and changes likely as new information about COVID - 19 and new guidelines come forth) as soon as it can. **Administration, faculty, and staff will offer a more robust, efficient, and cohesive version of distance learning education throughout**

the grade levels than was provided during the "long term dismissal" of March 16 - June 5, 2020. When quickly planning for our "long term dismissal" in March 2020, I don't believe that anyone envisioned this carrying over into another school year. Fortunately, my staff and I learned quite a bit about what worked, what didn't work, and how we could provide the best possible distance learning model if we ever had to transition to it again.

After finishing the 2020 - 2021 School Operations Plan, I began gathering information from other schools, educational articles, parent surveys, teacher feedback, and verbal communication to put together a schoolwide distance learning plan. The plan was to be in place if either a class or the entire school had to move towards a distance model either by state, county, or Diocese of Monterey mandate or due to cases of COVID - 19 in our school community. **This plan lays out standard guidelines for teachers and staff to utilize in forming their individualized classroom plans.** I will be meeting with my staff this week to finalize the Schoolwide Distance Learning Plan and hope to have it to you by the middle of next week. Today, I met with all of the Diocesan principals and the administrative team to share ideas and put together a cohesive plan of expectations of schools and students. Classroom teachers will communicate their policies as we near the start of school on August 25, 2020. (It sure would be great if we could get off the Governor's Monitoring List by August 11, which would allow us the 14 days necessary to resume in-person instruction.)

I can assure you that once school begins, in-person or distance, on August 25, 2020, weekly communications will come forth from St. Rose Catholic School administration to keep the school community informed on the latest developments. I do not want to get into politics; however, I can firmly state to you that I believe that children need to be, and should be in the seats as long as we can assure ourselves that we are taking the most appropriate cautions and considerations possible. As many of you know, I am a parent as I have a daughter at Mission College Prep, and I understand many of the difficulties that you, as a parent, may be facing at this time in regards to your children's education.

Answers to Recent Questions

- **Regarding classroom student "caps,"** I received two questions revolving around whether we would be capping classes at a certain number of students to maintain social distancing if we were to get an influx of students. On page 31 of the 2020 - 2021 School Operations Plan, I have listed a chart of how many square feet each potential classroom has available to students, the capacity of each classroom without social distancing, and the capacity of each class with social distancing. The easy answer is yes; **classes would be capped at the number of students listed on the right-hand column "with restrictions."** I could go one or perhaps two students over that number if we removed certain pieces of furniture from select classrooms as that would free up more "usable" student space.
- **Regarding new family referrals: Yes, a family who "refers" a new family to St. Rose Catholic School is eligible for a \$150.00 credit once the new family registers their children.** As stated in my February 2020 Parent Newsletter, "St. Rose Catholic School will be offering a thank you gift to those families who refer a new family to our

grades K - 8. (A new family would be considered a family who has not previously had a child attend St. Rose Catholic School.) A family who refers a new family grades K - 8 will receive a \$150.00 credit to their account once the new family pays their registration fees. At that time, the new family would let us know which family referred them to our school. (If multiple families have referred them, they will need to choose to give one family name to receive the credit.)"

- **Regarding “waivers” on page 1, footnote 2 of the California Department of Public Health's [COVID - 19 and Re-opening in Person Learning Framework for K - 12 Schools in California 2020 - 2021 School Year](#):** Some of you may have read this footnote, and it may have peaked your interest. It sure did to me. I have been in contact with Diocesan Superintendent Kimberly Cheng, County Public Health Director Dr. Penny Borenstein and County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jim Brescia regarding this footnote. **At this time, more insight and information is being gathered regarding these waivers.** The safety of children and faculty and guidance from state and local public health officials will help determine a resolution to the information in this footnote.
- **Regarding tuition breaks for distance learning:** This week, the Diocesan Administrative Team meets with the principals as a group to discuss this subject, amongst other things. I understand questions regarding this scenario; remember, I am also a parent of a child in our local Catholic schools. I hope to provide more information regarding this subject when it becomes available.

School Clothes/Uniforms

St. Rose Store Opening: Before the July 17 announcement by Governor Newsom, the [St. Rose Catholic School Store](#) was scheduled to open on July 20 and close on August 2. We will still open the store during these dates, AND we will re-open the store once again when it appears that we are close to resuming in-person instruction. Please remember, the clothes are "made to order" so they will **not be able to be returned or exchanged**. I know some of your children are growing incredibly fast, so please keep this in mind. At this time, I recommend that you do not purchase P.E. clothes for school as changing, and having large numbers of students in the restroom at a time is not considered best practices at this time due to COVID - 19.

St. Rose "Clothes Closet": As many of you know, Mary Carlson has taken on collecting, washing, and organizing those clothes that no longer have a home. These clothes are lightly used and are available to you. **Please see the attached current inventory at the end of this document. You may reach Mary Carlson at smurfmary@gmail.com.** At this time, I recommend that you do not purchase P.E. clothes for school as changing, and having large numbers of students in the restroom at a time is not considered best practices at this time due to COVID - 19. Additionally, spirit shirt colors and designs are likely to change this year.

FACTS Management Company

I have previously mentioned that St. Rose Catholic School will be transitioning to FACTS. We began the transition process in the Fall of 2019 with an August 15, 2020 change over date. While this August during the COVID - 19 pandemic is not the ideal time. We are on track for this change for the consolidation of our website, grade books, teacher homepages, financial management, and Student Information Systems into one location. More information will be coming, however, **if you have not already set up your tuition management information, begin to do so following the instructions that have, or will shortly, come from Maria Navarro in our school office. These instructions will come in the form of an invitation to set up FACTS tuition payments with an individual code.** Many families select ten monthly payments, which begin in August.

Miscellaneous Updates

Middle School Field Trips: Early last week, I decided to cancel the November 2 - 7 NatureBridge Yosemite Field trip for our 7th-grade class. Two days later, NatureBridge announced that they would not run overnight field trips during the 2020 - 2021 school year, which also cancels our 6th-grade field trip to Marin Headlands. At this point, I cannot speak to what May 2021 will look like regarding the 8th-grade class trip. I will do my best to work with NatureBridge and the 6th and 7th grade in an attempt to "make up" these field trips in one form or another if the student and family desire is there.

St. Rose Catholic School Extracurricular Athletics: Last week, when I began writing this, I was awaiting the C.I.F. (California Interscholastic Federation) decision on guidance for Fall 2020 Interscholastic Athletics. Currently, this is a moot point for most school's purposes; however, today, C.I.F. laid out their groundwork for [Fall 2020 Interscholastic Sports in California](#). Simply put, **the earliest interscholastic sports will happen in December 2020/January 2021, which is subject to change.**

Extended Care: Thank you for your responses to my June 23, 2020 "Extended Care Survey." Extended Care has been one of the most challenging programs at St. Rose Catholic School to plan for due to COVID -19. Once again, this currently does not matter; however, once we resume in-person instruction, we will be offering extended care in a different format.

Extended care will still be available for students in grades K - 8 (preschool will again run their program in a modified format); however, there will be changes:

- Our Extended Care daily maximum size will be 18 students.
- Families will have to "pre-register" their children for extended care every month. If families have pre-registered for a day or days and a child(ren) does not utilize extended care on that day, the family will be charged the full extended care fee for unutilized days.
- Students will not be able to "drop-in" to extended care without previously being signed up. We are required to make and keep daily "cohorts" and track all students in the event of a positive COVID - 19 case at school.

- As with regular classroom instruction, we will be doing our best to maintain social distancing protocols. The majority of extended care time will be spent outside, weather, and darkness permitting.

School Owned and Managed Digital Devices: Exciting news here! After the in-person trial and error, and witnessing the use of iPads and Chromebooks during distance learning, we have decided to run a **1 : 1 Chromebook program concurrently with our iPad program**. What this means is:

- **All middle school students will be transitioning over to Chromebooks beginning in August on a 1 : 1 basis.** I am still working with Worth Avenue Company on the optional insurance angle on these and how to credit accounts for those who had purchased two-year insurance last year on your child's iPad.
- **Our roughly 95 iPads will be evenly distributed between grades K - 5 for usage in those classrooms in centers or wherever teachers see fit.**

We can purchase these devices through the funds collected via "technology" fees over the past two years and a generous donation from the Italian Catholic Federation. More information will be forthcoming in our Schoolwide Distance Learning Plan and the beginning of the year virtual class meetings.

Thank you all for your words of support, advice, insight, inspiration during these times. The St. Rose Catholic School community is like no other. I am proud to be a part of this community and know that we will continue to persevere and get through these difficult times.

Thank you again,
Trevor Knable



BOY'S

Navy Pants

18 (3)

16 (3)

14 (6)

12 (3)

10 (3)

7 (1)

5 (1)

Navy Shorts

16 husky (5)

16 (3)

12 (5)

10 (1)

8 (1)

6 (1)

Khaki Pants

32 x 30 (1)

34 (1)

Khaki Shorts

32 (5)

34 (1)

GIRL'S

Navy Pants

14 (1)

10 (3)

Navy Shorts

14 (2)

12 (2)

10 (3)

8 (1)

Jumpers

12 (2)

10 (1)

8 (2)

7 (1)

5 (1)

Skirts

16 (3)

14 (13)

12 (4)

10 (5)

Uniform White Shirts

10-12 short sleeve (3)

14-16 long sleeve (1)

Uniform Navy Shirt

14-16 Girl's short sleeve (1) new logo

Spirit Shirts

Black – LG (1)

MED (2)

Purple – SM (1)

Light Blue – SM (1)

Yellow – SM (1)

Orange – SM (1)

PE Uniforms

Shirts

SM (1)

MED (4)

Shorts

SM (6)

MED (5)

Jackets

SM 7-8 (2)

MED 10-12 (5)

LG 12-14 (7)

XL 14-16 (4)

XXL 18-20 (1)

Sweatshirts

SM (1)

MED (1)

LG (1)