

As you are aware, schools across the state are engaged in planning for the reopening of schools in the fall. We remain committed to develop a plan that places student and staff safety as our highest priority, and also to ensure that a high-quality education is provided to our students. We have been working with over 20 members, representing all stakeholders, across multiple subcommittees to develop our plan. We have held multiple meetings over the summer to plan and review feedback. We will continue ongoing communication throughout the summer and during the school year. The plans we are developing need to account for maintaining social distancing, the wearing of face coverings, consideration of foot traffic patterns in our buildings, cleaning, transportation, how we will respond to any positive COVID cases or outbreaks, and budgeting, to name a few.

It will be important that we show patience and flexibility as we adapt our plan based on feedback from all stakeholders. As a reminder, the school is not determining which plan to implement (in-person, partial hybrid, limited hybrid, and distance learning). The plan that is implemented will be determined by the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) as well as RIDE (Rhode island department of Education). All summer Mrs. Izzi has participated in weekly Zoom meetings with the Catholic School Office. The Superintendent and Principals have discussed the best way to implement the state guidelines given to administrators on June 19th. Mrs. Izzi has also participated in Zoom meetings with RIDE and administrators from Rhode Island. We want to make sure all voices are heard, so feel free to reach out to me, with any feedback or ideas you may have as we continue our planning.

Please take the time to review the Frequency Answered Questions. There is an abundance of information, and it is changing continuously.

## **FAQs #1**

### **1) What if we go to a hybrid schedule?**

For the grades that are required to adapt the hybrid due to class size, those grades have been separated into 2 groups. Grades K, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 are the only classes that would need to implement the **limited** partial plan. Monday would be distance learning day for both group A and B. Tuesday, and Thursday Group A would attend in person. Wednesday and Friday Group B would attend in person.

Rosebuds, Pre K 4, 1, 6, and 8 would attend in-person each day, as current enrollment allows for it, per guidelines.

## **2) When do students wear masks?**

Since the summer information was sent to you on Wednesday July 30, we have received new guidelines. K-12 students, staff, and teachers are required to wear masks at all times. Preschool students do not need to wear masks when in their homeroom with their classroom teacher and aide. However they will when outside their regular classroom and also during Specials. Students will be given mask breaks periodically throughout the day. Masks must be appropriate for Christian Environment as referred to in the Family Handbook (the handbook was sent via Rediker on July 30th). Masks must be clean or disposable. Students will not be punished but will be asked/reminded about proper mask wearing. During outdoor recess students are not required to wear the mask. During outdoor PE class students will not be required to wear a mask.

[www.back2schoolri.com/what-you-need-to-know/](http://www.back2schoolri.com/what-you-need-to-know/)

## **3) Where do students eat lunch? How will our caterer deliver lunch food?**

Everyone should bring a clean beach towel daily for outside lunch and outside learning. 2 tents have been purchased to allow for an outdoor space available for lunch and learning activities. If eating lunch indoors, students will eat lunch in their classroom.

Cold and hot lunch will continue to be offered by Cozy Caterer (the September menu is posted on the website). Lunch will be given to those that order it in an individually wrapped package. Students will leave their classroom to pick up their lunch and will be distanced six feet apart when doing so.

## **4) Are substitutes allowed?**

Subs will be assigned by teams.

## **5) What will my child do with their belongings in Kids Haven?**

Each child will have assigned a milk crate (with their name on it) to put their belongings in. Students will be separated by pods or teams. At this point we are determining how this program will be restructured and will provide details at another time. Kids Haven

and Morning Care will not begin until September 8<sup>th</sup>. Kids Haven will be much more structured and we recommend that only those that truly need the child-care utilize the program.

Parents needing to use Kids Haven have been asked to sign up ahead of time so that we are prepared. **Please note that Kids Haven closes at 5:00pm.**

**6) Will cubbies/ lockers be used?**

Yes! Students will be allowed to use them, the students will use them at staggered times.

**7) How will class parties take place?**

Nothing with peanuts, or tree nuts are allowed in the building. Teacher will decide from the following options. "Party in the bag" students will bring in a bagged treat for the party, or individually packaged items may be distributed by the teacher. The PTO Board met recently with Mrs. Izzi and these guidelines were reviewed.

**8) Will classroom doors be open or shut?**

Due to COVID guidelines classroom doors must be open. However, the door will still be locked, if an emergency was to occur the door can be pulled shut quickly.

**9) Will my child have recess?**

Yes! We are so fortunate to have two playgrounds. The cleaning crew will be cleaning the play structures in between classes. If there is inclement weather students will remain socially distanced during indoor recess within their homeroom. Students will not have to wear their masks during outdoor recess. Recess will not be shortened. Preschool students will not be allowed to use the cars.

**10) Will my child need to wear a mask in PE?**

PE classes will be held outdoors with non-contact activities. Students are not required to wear a mask. If inclement weather forces us to have PE indoors students will remain in their classroom with socially distanced activities. A mask will need to be worn.

**11) How will PE be executed in the event of distance learning?**

It will be similar to last spring, the homeroom teacher will be in charge of this. If students are involved in outside activities (i.e. dance, karate etc.) this can count as their PE grade.

**12) During distance learning how will the specials be graded? Will it be different from last Spring?**

Yes it will be different because we now have experience and have your feedback from surveys sent last Spring. It will be more consistent and specials will meet regularly. Teachers will utilize consistent communication and not a variety of programs.

Specials will be graded the same as if students are in person. Specials unlike last Spring will not be pass/fail.

**13) Will music be offered?**

Our intent is to offer music to all students as usual. However, Mrs. Gagnon retired and we are currently in search of a new music teacher. At this time we are unsure if programs such as Chorus or Paul Effman will be able to be executed due to guidelines. If we do offer them they will be done in a different manner than we are accustomed to.

**14) What are we doing for hand washing procedures? How is the building cleaned daily?**

We are installing touchless paper towel machines, soap dispensers, and hand sanitizer machines. They will be in all classrooms and anywhere there is a sink. Hand sanitizer machines have also been installed throughout the hallways.

In addition to our professional cleaning company sanitizing and cleaning the building at night a Day Porter has been hired from *Smell Fresh* the establishment that cleans the building.

**15) Will the bubbler (water fountain) be used?**

Students are encouraged to bring a clean water bottle daily. Students will be allowed to refill their water bottle from the filtration refill station only.

**16) Will students be attending 1st Friday Mass?**

Only students who are hosting the Mass, will celebrate Mass from the gym. All other students and staff will stay in the homeroom and participate virtually. Communion will be provided in the foyer for others.

**17) Can parents and relatives join for in-person Mass?**

Due to restrictions parents and relatives may not be able to celebrate Mass in the gym, but the Mass will be posted on Facebook Live. We will be looking into the guidelines for clarification.

**18) Will I need to fill out a daily screening form?**

**Yes!** This is a change from what we told you on July 30th as guidelines have changed. Every day, every student will need to provide a completed form at their entrance to the building. Forms will be found on class webpages and the school webpage, also teachers and the office will have extra copies available. Students will NOT be admitted to school if they do not have a completed form. If you have a child in Morning Care their form will be collected at that time.

**19) Where do I pick up my child for dismissal?**

Rosebuds- Grade 2 are at door 5 (basketball court)  
Grade 3-5 are at door 8 (staff entrance)  
Grades 6-8 door 10 (Main Ave - upper wing)  
Buses door 1 (Brentwood main entrance)

**20) If RIDE mandates state- wide school closures does that include Catholic and independent schools?**

YES! If RIDE or the governor mandates a statewide school closure **ALL** schools must comply. Last March we were mandated by the state to close.

**21) If RIDE or the Governor mandates a city/district school closure does that affect private and charter schools?**

Guidance has not been released yet.

**22) Could the start date for school change?**

**Yes!** If the governor and RIDE indicate a delay in the start of school, we will follow their guidance. If the first day of school day is changed the Orientation date will change too.

**23) Will Fall sports run for the Middle School?**

The Catholic Athletic League (CAL) intends to host Fall sports. St.Rose belongs to CAL and is sending a survey to middle-school families to determine if there is interest.

**24) Will there be a school play?**

At this time St.Rose and the RI Youth Theater have decided to postpone the play until the winter or spring.

**25) Will Trick or Trunk and the Santa Breakfast take place?**

Friday, October 30th has been set aside for Trick or Trunk and Sunday, December 6th for Santa Breakfast. The parish hall and parking lot has been reserved, but there is a strong possibility that these events will not take place.

**26) Will there be a Christmas Concert?**

At this time we reserved the Church for Thursday, December 10th but there is a possibility this event could be a virtual concert or we may not be able to have one at all.

**27) Will there be a Back To School (B2S) Cookout?**

Due to the RIDOH's restrictions on social gathering we will not have a B2S cookout.

**28) Will there be a Back To School Night?**

Due to the RIDOH's restrictions on social gathering we will not have a B2S night. The Orientation will include information about curriculum, grading, and class policies.

**29) Will there be a Scholastic Bookfair?**

There will be a virtual event as well as a smaller Bookfair at school that will allow Homerooms to visit. Parents and guests will not be permitted to shop as they have in the past.

**30) Will the playground be mulched and the fence fixed?**

Plans are underway to have the portion of the fence that is damaged to be replaced and the playground to be mulched with playground mulch.

### **31) Are visitors allowed in the building?**

We need to keep access to the building to a minimum. Parent and teacher meetings will take place via Zoom. Parents will need to come to the door to pick up their child for an early dismissal or if a child is ill. A log will be kept for contact tracing purposes.

### **32) Is the library going to open?**

Library books will not be allowed to be borrowed and AR testing will take place in individual classrooms. Classroom libraries will be utilized and books will be “quarantined” and sanitized between usage.

### **33) Will Morning Care be opened?**

Morning Care will operate but is being restructured. **It will open at 7:00am and drop off is at the back gym door.** Refer to the Morning Care flyer sent on July 30th for details.

This program begins running on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **34) Is St. Rose a nut and peanut-free building?**

Peanuts and nuts are not allowed in the building nor anything containing nuts or peanuts. Food manufactured in a facility containing nuts or peanuts is allowed to be brought to school if a child brings their own lunch.

### **35) When is the First PTO meeting? Will there be an Open PTO meeting?**

Yes, but it will take place outside and parents will need to bring their own chair. Due to the gathering restriction attendance will have to be limited and we may have two separate Open meetings. Details to come from the PTO Board.

### **36) Does St. Rose have a Nurse?**

Yes - Ms. Rupert will be in school three days a week and Mrs. Delvecchio will be here two days a week.

### **37) How will traffic in the hallways allow for social distancing?**

Arrows have been installed throughout all hallways directing flow and placed 6 feet apart to help us social distance. The amount of traffic in the hallways will be limited and classroom use of the hallways will be staggered.

### **38) What is a “pod”?**

Each Homeroom class will make up a pod. A pod is a stable group of students and staff that is designed to spend all or most of the day together as a group.

### **39) How do we ensure students' social distance?**

We need parents to partner with us in explaining to their children the importance of wearing a mask and complying with the restrictions that St.Rose is implementing following CDC and RIDOH's recommendations this school year. Teachers will also review this with students in Homeroom. The start of school will likely be focused more on health, safety, social distancing, and hygiene. Teachers and staff will frequently remind students of the regulations and communicate any changes to parents at home. Desks have been distanced per the best practices outlined by RIDOH and the CDC. Also plexi-glass dividers have been installed in appropriate areas.

### **40) Will rooms have AC?**

AC window units have been approved for usage. Air filters will be cleaned on a more frequent basis. Windows and doors will remain open to introduce new air into the rooms. Ceiling fans will not be permitted to be on at this time.

### **41) Will there be bus transportation?**

It is encouraged that parents drop off their children and pick them up for dismissal. However as of August 5th Warwick has informed us there will be bussing available for Catholic Schools. Transportation restrictions and guidelines will be forthcoming and could change.