



Dear St. Pius X Preschool Families,

I would like to personally welcome you to the 2020-21 school year and to thank you for your commitment and continued support of the Rochester Catholic Schools! We are an Easter people filled with hope, and the light of Christ is what leads us into this new school year with an opportunity to learn together once again. We are stronger together, and I truly believe that our students will reap the benefits socially, emotionally, and spiritually by coming together as a physical community this year. There will most certainly be challenges that we face, but with faith and determination, there are no obstacles that we cannot face and overcome.

I am delighted and blessed to serve you as the principal of our St. Pius X school community. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me personally with any general questions or any clarification about our school's plan to safely reopen the building this school year. While the method of instruction, location where learning occurs, or protocols that we are following may change this school year, our commitment to providing the absolute best Catholic education for our students at St. Pius X does not. Each of us is called to see Christ in others and to be Christ for others.

May God be with you always and keep you safe,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Dave Jenson".

Dave Jenson
St. Pius X Principal

St. Pius X School COVID-19 Preparedness Plan for 2020-2021 School Year

St. Pius X School continues to be committed to providing our students and families with academic excellence grounded in our Catholic faith. As we look to the 2020-2021 school year, we have been working very hard on finalizing a safe plan for everyone! Governor Walz has asked all schools to make plans for 3

scenarios: 1. All In-Person, 2. Hybrid (some days in person, some distance learning), and 3. All Distance Learning.

PLEASE READ ALL OF THE IMPORTANT INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT!

With the uncertainty of what the whole school year will look like, it is important that we work together to make it the best it can be!! Thank you for all of your support!

We will not be meeting in person this year for meet the teacher and orientation. Please look for an email/powerpoint to watch at home instead :)

1. FREQUENT HANDWASHING:

- Prior to the start of the school year, preschool staff provides families with a video demonstrating proper hand washing techniques.
- Children are supervised washing hands upon arrival by a staff member. Children also wash or sanitize hands before eating, after using the bathroom, before and after outdoor play, and any other time a staff member deems it appropriate.
- Hand sanitizer is dispensed by staff and is stored out of reach of children.

2. CLEANING AND DISINFECTING:

- Our preschool program is following the guidelines for regular disinfecting of toys and frequently changing out the options for play.
- High touch surfaces (tables, chairs, doorknobs, faucets, light switches, etc) are cleaned and disinfected several times during the day.
- Each child has their own bin of art supplies.

- If a person or persons were to have a confirmed case of COVID-19, we will work with Olmsted County Public Health and our custodial team to ensure the room is properly cleaned and disinfected.

3. **ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE:**

- Prior to the start of the school year parents are given a set of screening questions which are used at home before the start of each school day.
Children who exhibit symptoms must remain at home. **ALSO- Parents will need to do a temperature check each morning. If your child has a temperature of 100.4 or higher, you will need to keep your child home until fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.**
- At arrival, families enter through the designated door and the family remains in the entryway and waits for preschool staff. Adults will be masked and maintain social distancing requirements.
- Staff do a temperature check, ask screening questions, and do a visual assessment of the child for signs of illness. Families then depart through the designated door.
- Staff escort children to the classroom, assist them in arrival routine, and supervise proper handwashing.
- At departure, the children are escorted out of the classroom to the designated dismissal area. Parents pick up their children and promptly leave the dismissal area.

***MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED ABOUT WHICH SCHOOL DOOR YOU WILL USE TO BRING YOUR CHILD FOR THE START OF THE DAY AND WHERE TO MEET THEM AT THE END OF THE DAY!**

4. SICK CHILDREN AND STAFF:

- Health checks are performed daily for staff and children.
- Exclusion guidelines are followed to ensure staff and children stay home when sick.
- Children who become sick at school are isolated until picked up.
- If a staff member or child has a positive test, we will follow the guidelines and contact MDH and Olmsted County Public Health to ensure that they can conduct the proper contact tracing and/or other measures the health professionals deem appropriate.

***PLEASE BE PROACTIVE AND MAKING SURE THAT YOU DO A TEMP. CHECK/SYMPTOM CHECK EVERY MORNING BEFORE BRINGING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL! Symptom Check Form is attached for you to use at home.**

5. SOCIAL DISTANCING THROUGHOUT THE DAY:

- Children and staff stay in a consistent group for the entire preschool session.
- Time with Specials (gym, music, Spanish) will plan accordingly for safety. Examples- Gym outside if possible, teachers traveling to the classroom to teach.)
- Staff members use developmentally appropriate cues and signs to remind children of social distancing.

6. SOURCE CONTROL AND CLOTH FACE COVERINGS:

- Children in our program cannot reliably wear face masks.
- Staff members wear face coverings in accordance with CDC recommendations.

7. WORKPLACE VENTILATION:

- Our systems receive regular maintenance to ensure proper ventilation. When possible, windows are open and outside time is utilized.

8. PLAYGROUND USE:

- Children wash/sanitize hands before and after being on playground equipment and playground schedules are staggered to allow for social distance.
- Regular cleaning of the playground equipment will be done multiple times during the school day.

9. SNACK/LUNCH TIME:

- Staff and children practice proper hand washing.
- Staff serve individual snack/lunch portions to each child. Handwashing and sanitizing of the lunch area will be followed each school day.

10. FIELD TRIPS AND EVENTS:

- There are no field trips or events outside of the classroom.

11. COMMUNICATIONS AND TRAINING

- Plans are posted in the classroom and staff is trained in implementation of the plan.
- Families receive email and paper copies of the plan.

Napping Items: These are all optional but help with the quality of rest your child experiences at preschool.

- **Mini/Travel Pillow**
- **Blanket: Crib size or smaller**
- **1 Lovie (must be able to fit inside a 1 gallon ziplock bag.**
- **One fitted crib sheet (optional)**
- **Pillow case with child's first and last name written on it in permanent marker.**
- **All items must fit inside the above pillowcase for storage**

**** The 11 areas above will be used for the All In-Person and Hybrid Scenarios that Governor Walz asked all schools to plan for. Scenario 3 would be All Distance Learning! We would use the same procedures that were used last Spring to finish the 2019-2020 school year! We know that there may be some tweaks that could be made to DL and we are taking those into consideration.**