

# St. John's Health and Safety Plan for 2020-2021

As of 08/04/2020

St. John's Lutheran School is committed to the health and safety of your child, your family, and our staff throughout the Coronavirus pandemic. We are also committed to a successful start of the school year and a robust and exceptional educational experience for your child. We have been working all summer long to make sure we accomplish these goals.

## Educational goals and expectations for 2020-2021

1. Rich and exceptional educational experience
2. Face-to-face instruction or online (Mustangs Online)
3. Full school day - 8:10 AM - 3:10 PM
4. Continued exceptional teaching and learning
  - a. PE, music, electives, etc. will continue, as guidelines allow
  - b. Athletics continued as feasible
  - c. Chapel may be modified in smaller groups, online or be held outside, but will continue weekly
5. Faith-filled culture, centered on Jesus Christ and His promises for us
6. Safe & secure campus

## Health and Safety Protocols for 2020-2021

*According to the CDC and state of California guidelines for schools, there are a number of guidelines and steps. The current, full CDC guidelines can be found by [clicking on this link](#). Also, California state guidelines on schools can be found [through this link](#). The American Academy of Pediatrics also provides [guidelines](#) that are useful to our planning process. **NOTE:** Please be aware that schools follow their own guidelines (linked above), not the general guidelines provided by the state to the public.*

*St. John's is committed to your child, family and staff safety. Our organization is also committed to a financially sound plan that includes advice from our insurance and legal advisors. The following health and safety guidelines will guide us as we plan for a full start to the school year, but are subject to change as CDC, state, and county guidelines develop and as legal advice determines what is best for our organization.*

1. We will teach and reinforce handwashing and covering coughs/sneezes.



- a. St. John's has purchased extra mobile hand washing stations to help facilitate multiple, daily hand washing regiments.
2. Face coverings (masks) are considered essential when physical distancing is difficult.
  - a. We also acknowledge that mask requirements can rob students of the normalized school experience they need for their mental and social health. The CDC also acknowledges that it may be difficult for children and staff to wear a face covering all day, especially outside or during active activities. The CDC says that face coverings be worn "as feasible."
  - b. To comply with the California state schools guidelines, all children in grades 3 - 8 must wear a face covering (mask or shield).
  - c. To comply with California state schools guidelines, all children in grades Kindergarten through 2 will be encouraged, but not mandated to wear a face covering.
  - d. School staff will wear a face covering (mask or shield) at all times.
3. We will have a surplus of supplies to make sure that students can wash hands and sanitize hands many times a day. We also have no-touch trash cans.
4. Students will have scheduled handwashing times throughout the day.
5. St. John's has a greatly enhanced cleaning protocol that will be in effect for school, which includes classrooms, bathrooms and playground equipment. Items that will be frequently cleaned include (but not limited to):
  - i. Door handles
  - ii. Light switches
  - iii. Sink handles
  - iv. Bathroom surfaces, intermittently throughout the day
  - v. Tables
  - vi. Student Desks
  - vii. Chairs
6. Doors and windows will be open, along with HVAC equipment to provide lots of fresh air flow.
  - a. Nearly all of St. John's classrooms have individual HVAC units which eliminate cross-classroom airflow. Hepa air filters may be installed in all units as well.
7. We have several options for outdoor learning environments that will be employed for various grades.
8. Social distancing will be promoted through:
  - a. On-campus volunteers will be prohibited for the time being
  - b. Student desks/workstations will be spaced apart accordingly (6ft) and facing in the same direction.
  - c. Lunch will be served outside with students spaced apart.
  - d. Recess will be done in smaller groups with no sharing of equipment between groups and playground equipment sanitized after each group.



- e. Families dropping off and picking up via the car line will be highly recommended. We will not have staggered start and end times; however, we will have more car line pick up areas available to avoid congestion.
  - i. All adults must wear a mask when picking up or dropping off their child (not in the car line).
  - ii. The car line will be the PREFERRED method of dropping off and picking up your child (1st through 6th grades) (Kindergarten will still pick up at the classroom doors)
  - iii. **School Entrances and Exits for Face-to-Face Return**
    - 1. [CAMPUS\\_MAP\\_StJohnsOrange AM DROP OFF AREAS](#)
    - 2. [CAMPUS\\_MAP\\_StJohnsOrange PM Drop off areas](#)
- f. Cubbies will be placed outside the classroom to keep each child's belongings separate.
- g. Grades 2-3: students will keep their backpacks outside and distanced.
- h. Teachers will teach and promote social distancing throughout the day.
- i. Middle school teachers will switch classrooms instead of students switching classrooms to avoid hallway traffic.
- j. Middle school students will be placed into small cohorts for their classes.
- k. Additional entrances and exits will be available to avoid congestion at the beginning and end of the day.
- l. Lockers will be temporarily closed and students may keep their belongings in their backpacks (grades 6-8)
- m. Lockers in 4-5th grades will be spaced out.
- 9. Choice Lunch - Choice Lunch is providing a "grab and go" lunch protocol so students can still have a hot lunch with a touchless experience.
- 10. All staff will be trained in identifying COVID symptoms and safety.
- 11. Parents/guardians must do a daily health check (temperature, other symptoms) and acknowledge that their child is healthy and symptom free. **Daily temperature checks of children at the school gate will also be done.**
- 12. Children will be allowed to play together during recess times. Classrooms will be considered a cohort. Each cohort will be able to have recesses together; however, students from separate grade levels will not have recess together. All students will be required to wash hands after all recesses.
- 13. The school nurse will work closely with the teachers and families. She is a licensed RN and will be following all medical protocols and monitoring all staff and students' health.
- 14. If a child or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, all people who had contact with that person will be notified of their exposure. The school will follow all CDC protocols if this situation occurs, which includes:
  - a. 14 day quarantine for all people exposed to a positive COVID-19 case.
  - b. Students who are quarantined will have instruction delivered online and will not be counted absent during the 14 day period.

15. Parents MUST keep their children home if they are experiencing any of the following symptoms: have a fever (100.4 or higher), coughing, difficulty breathing, sore throat, chills, muscle aches, or loss of taste or smell, vomiting for any reason, excessive sneezing, or uncharacteristic lethargy. Children that exhibit any of these symptoms while at school will be sent home immediately.
16. Teachers will commit to self-monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms, including temperature checks daily
17. Sick children exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms will be in a separate area while waiting to go home, monitored by the nurse but isolated from other children.
18. Outdoor tents on campus will be used to promote learning in a fresh-air environment
19. Ancillary staff (school office staff, counselor, A/V, facilities, etc) all follow strict protocol for COVID-19 safety (PPE, disinfecting, self-monitoring, etc.) and have been trained in COVID 19 safety procedures.
20. All A/C filters have been changed for this school year, and are replaced quarterly

## Concluding Thoughts

In everything, we seek to honor God, keep families and staff safe, and provide the best educational experience possible in the least restrictive, most healthy and safe environment, while following all current health guidelines. St. John's acknowledges that we will not be able to serve all families with their individual beliefs and convictions. We seek to do the best we can, with the gifts God has given us.

As guidelines change, St. John's will adapt as needed. Any changes will be made and communicated when they have been vetted by leadership, insurance and legal counsel. St. John's strives to keep everyone virus free, but we also realize that the virus can spread anywhere.

We will work through anything that comes our way, and we invite you to partner in that endeavor, knowing that our Great and Mighty God is still in control through it all. We have the flexibility to continue to provide safe, yet dynamic learning for our students. Your partnership and tuition dollars have sustained our community through this difficult time, and together, we will continue to walk by faith, hand in hand! Faith Over Fear! (2020-2021 school theme!)

Jake Hollatz, Ed.D.

### **Principal**

St. John's Lutheran Church and School • Orange, CA

- Delivering the restorative hope of Jesus •



**Courageous Faith.  Inspired Learners.**

**Courageous Faith. Inspired Learners.**

*“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9*



*What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?*  
Romans 8:31

