



Dear Kindergarten-Grade 2 families,

Welcome Back. Please be aware the teachers are preparing for your return on Friday and there will be no live lessons after morning meetings that day. A tremendous amount of time and consideration has been put in to preparing for a safe re-entry to campus. Teachers have been preparing classrooms both in the main building and the portables. It is like the first day of school all over again. As educators we know in-person teaching will not be the same as before. Though we acknowledge the benefits of teaching in-person, this model must now be weighted by the guidelines and safety measures typified by this pandemic. Collective sacrifices, by both school and parent, are necessary to facilitate the 5-day a week return for students in our primary grades. We already know we have confirmed Covid-19 cases in our community and we are prepared for this reality; it is something we must all mentally prepare for in our return. When, and if, this does occur we will not treat this as a failure in our systems, but rather as a component of our current state. It will take time to adapt to new routines, socially-distanced school practices, and even putting on the school uniform. The school will remain in communication with you as we move forward. We appreciate your patience, again, as we fine-tuned the plan. Together we can.

Blessings,

Bernadette O'Leary

This document is an additional guide to our re-opening plan, specific to your child's return to campus on Monday, Oct. 5. Please review before arriving to campus.

Student Arrival:



Prior to leaving for school each morning, please complete the QR Code Health Screen for your child(ren) and take their temperatures. If you have more than one child attending preK-2nd grade you may complete one screening questionnaire for the entire family. Completion of the daily health screening will help expedite entry into the buildings each morning. At this time, we are asking you to keep home any student who does not feel well. This is extremely important for the health and safety of our entire community. For students who have allergies and may have sniffles, please bring a note from your pediatrician. Students who stay home will be able to participate in remote instruction.

Student arrival times to campus have been staggered in an effort to promote social-distancing. Please time your arrival to campus in the allotted windows listed below:

- 8:10am-8:15: PreK
- 8:45-8:50: Families with last names A-M
- 8:55-9:00: Families with last names N-Z

Two student check-in and temperature screening areas have been established. Please enter campus off 79th street at one of the two designated locations- east or west side of main school building. If you are driving to campus, please review our [traffic pattern map](#) for drop-off and pick-up prior to arrival on Monday.

Staff will be posted to greet students, confirm completion of the daily health screening, and scan student temperatures. Should a student be found to have a temperature of 100 or above or show any of the COVID symptoms, you will be asked to take the child home. Once a child completes the AM arrival process, they will report to designated line-up spots on the playground. Students will line up and remain in their cohorts. Their teacher will greet them there and escort groups into the building through designated entry points. Parents, to begin with you may escort your child to their student lines and say goodbye there. Please adhere to social distancing guidelines and encourage your child to remain in their cohort. There will be signage posted as to where your child should gather.

Creation of Student Cohorts:

Based on social distancing and safety guidelines along with the number of students committed to returning to in-person instruction, three grade-level cohorts of 10-16 students have been created at each grade level. This model is a departure from our traditional 2 homerooms at each grade level. Cohorts were created with the following in mind:

- criteria used annually in homeroom placement (see Handbook)
- students utilizing afternoon Extended Daycare (XDC) must remain in the same cohort for the day so as to limit transmission of potential contagion
- number of in-person learners by grade level
- classroom square footage

Teaching teams, comprised of grade-level certificated teachers and qualified teaching assistants, are assigned to the cohorts and will work with each of the grade-level groups in a given day.

- Kindergarten cohort team: Miss Williamson, Miss Murray, Mrs. Suarez
- First grade cohort team: Mrs. Costa, Mrs. Jessup, Mrs. Longton, Mrs. Pineseault
- Second grade team: Mrs. Oines, Mrs. Kuypers, Mrs. Aruella, Miss Britto-Bugge.

Student grade level cohorts will remain together throughout the day and not change classrooms or interact with other cohorts. There may be limited

interaction during the day, (for example, passing in the hallways) but no socializing between or among groups. This includes during recess and outdoor physical education classes.

In order to facilitate the creation of 3 cohorts in each grade level, some students may be placed with different classmates. Your child's homeroom teacher at the start of the school year will remain your primary point of contact, regardless of the cohort in which your child has been designated. Cohort leaders, including teachers and assistants, are teaching all the students in a particular grade as a team. Cohort groupings are attached to this email.

The teachers have included the cohort designations in this email. See attachment.

The second grade cohorts will be in the portable classroom on the east side of campus (rooms 43, 44, and 45.) First grade and kindergarten cohorts will remain on the ground floor of the main school building.

Specialist Classes:

The Student Support Team (Reading and Primary Book Club) will continue to work with students, both in-person and remotely.

In an effort to maximize outdoor time, physical education classes will be taught 4 days a week on the playground. Please be prepared for all types of weather. Recess will also be outside, rain or shine. Consider providing an extra set of rain gear/boots to live in child's classroom during the remainder of the school year.

Spanish, art, and music classes will continue to be offered virtually and recorded lessons can be accessed at home anytime through the Google classroom.

Lunch:

Lunch will be eaten in the classrooms. This is the one time of the day where students will be permitted to remove their masks. We ask you to discuss with your child the importance of remaining seated through their lunch time and limiting their conversation with others. Teachers will provide read-a-louds and activities to capture attention while students are eating. Hot lunches will be

delivered to classrooms on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The hot lunch team is looking to add more service dates to the calendar in the future.

Dismissal:

Students will begin dismissing at 2:00pm. Kindergarten students can be met at their classrooms near the double doors on the north side of the school building. First and second grade students will be escorted by teachers to the 79th street load/unload area. Second grade east side of main school building. First grade west side of main school building.

2:00pm K classes

2:05-2:10pm 1st grade

The playground and play pit will not be open after school for congregating. Please exit campus immediately at the conclusion of the school day.

Remote Learners:

Keeping in mind we are now asking teachers to tackle a new teaching style (teaching to kids in the classroom while including remote learners who remain home) it will take time to settle into new format for everyone. Some of these new practices will inevitably be implemented by trial and error. The later start time and early dismissal for on campus students are meant to provide teachers with some dedicated time to connect with remote learners. These students will remain connected to the class through Google classroom and some live-stream lessons. Clearly the live interaction with the teacher and class will be different and the schedule will be dictated by individual teachers. Assignments, from the homeroom teacher and specialists will continue to be posted daily.

Reminders:

Students must wear masks at all times, except lunch, while they are on campus. To further prevent the spread of contagion, additional measures will be in place:

- Only faculty, staff and students will be permitted entry to school and parish buildings

- No re-entry during the day: if a student leaves campus they will not be permitted to return that day

We all have a shared responsibility in ensuring that our community remains as safe and healthy as possible. To that end, please read all parent communication from the school and follow the parent guidelines from Public Health – Seattle & King County: **Stay home if sick •Stay home if exposed.**

We are reiterating that you please keep home any student who does not feel well. This is extremely important for the health and safety of our entire community. For students who have allergies and may have sniffles, please bring a note from your pediatrician. Students who stay home will be able to participate in remote instruction. And please communicate with the school if someone in your family tests positive for Covid-19. We have a shared responsibility in protecting one another. And one final reminder: avoid large gatherings. I am hearing about some of our families having parties and social gatherings. Each one of us has a responsibility to care for each other at this time. We are asking the teachers to help you all by bringing your children back to school. They are putting themselves at risk. Please support them by following King County guidelines. Wear masks, socially distance!