



COVID 19 Reopening Plan For the 2020-2021 School Year St. Benedict School

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Amherst, N.Y. 14226

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Opening date and classes begin: 9-9-20

Dates for Fall Semester: 9-9-20 to 12-22-20

Date plan submitted- July 31, 2020

Name and title of person submitting plan: MaryAlice Bagwell, Principal

Please note that we are following NYS guidelines and it is an evolving document

Part one: Repopulating the Campus

Building Entry:

- Student drop-off points will be established and communicated to families.
- Parents should not enter the building at drop off times.
- Parents, visitors, and vendors will be discouraged from entering the building.
- Faculty will be assigned to all 4 entry doors.
- Students will enter in a staggered, controlled manner and practicing social distancing.
- Automatic Hand sanitizer stations will be provided at all 4 doors for use by ALL students upon entering the building.
- Anyone entering the building (students, faculty, and staff) will receive a temperature check and complete a health check questionnaire.
- Answers to the health check will be recorded on a Google Doc.
- Anyone with a temperature of 100 degrees F. or above will be denied entry to the school.

- Upon arrival, students are to go to their lockers/classrooms and drop off personal effects.
- All students and personnel residing in the same home as a positively tested Covid-19 patient will be excluded from the building until the Mandated Health Department Quarantine has been completed.
- Bus riders will follow a similar protocol as they enter the building.

Masks

- All persons within our building will wear a mask. Extra masks will be provided as needed.
- Students and Faculty should arrive and depart the building wearing masks.
- Students and staff will be allowed to remove masks while eating.
- PreK 3-4 will be allowed to remove masks when practicing social distancing or sitting behind a barrier.
- All students will be allowed mask breaks when social distancing or behind a barrier.
- Students, Faculty, and Staff that refuse to wear a mask will be denied entry to the building.
- All kitchen staff and custodial staff will comply to mask guidelines.

Disinfection

- Hand sanitizers are available at all entrances, classrooms, cafeteria, bathrooms and playground. Acceptable cleaners and wipes will also be available for these areas.
- Faculty and Staff will be reminded to wash hands frequently.

Travel

- All students, faculty and staff are advised to not travel domestically and internationally. (This will be lifted as warranted)

Staffing

- All faculty, staff and students are instructed to not come to work if they are experiencing Covid like symptoms.

Use of Facilities

- Any organization that is sharing the use of the facility (ONLY Faith Formation and LE3) will adhere to all Covid Protocols.

Orientation on arrival

- Students will receive a daily orientation about social distancing via school announcements, video or teacher instructions.

Classrooms

- Classes have been split to lower class sizes.
- There will be at least two of every grade.
- Small class sizes allow for 5 day in school instruction.
- Classes will remain in cohorts with the same homeroom teachers.
- Special teachers will travel to the cohorts.
- Hallways will have designated directional signage.
- Floor and hall stickers will encourage 6 feet of social distancing space.
- Student clear, dividers will be in use when appropriate in all classrooms.

Cafeteria and Snacks

- Students will eat in their classrooms on alternating days 6 feet apart.
- When eating in their classrooms, school bought lunches will be brought to them to minimize traffic in the hallways.
- Students will eat in the cafeteria on alternating days 6 feet apart.
- Cafeteria tables will be sanitized between all three lunch period.
- Meals will be grab and go.
- Condiments will be single use.
- Handwashing must take place before and after meals and snacks.
- Food sharing will not be allowed.
- All birthday treats must be individually packaged and store-bought..
- Students and staff will be allowed to remove masks while eating.

Gymnasium

- Students will have Physical Education classes outside as weather allows.
- Students will be 12 feet apart for indoor P.E. class. They will do Tybo, Yoga, individual fitness activities.

Worship

- Following the guidelines for churches, some students will attend weekly Mass, practice social distancing and wearing masks.
- The rest of the school will participate in Mass via Zoom from their classrooms.
- A schedule will be made to assure students are able to participate in Mass in person and from their classrooms.

Outdoor play spaces

- Playground will be used in compliance with existing New York State Department of Health Guidelines.
- Playgrounds will only be utilized by small groups at any given time.
- Hand sanitizer station will be available outside.

Part Two: Monitoring the Health of Students, Faculty, and Staff

- The covid coordinator is Melinda Kraus, RN,BSN.
- Mrs. Kraus will be in touch with Erie Co. Department of Health and Amherst Central School District to report all people sent for Covid testing and results of those tests.
- All staff and parents will be sent multiple emails regarding opening plans and protocol and to notify the coordinator if experiencing covid symptoms once school begins.
- Plans will also be posted on the school website and Facebook.
- Temperature checks and Covid questionnaires to be performed on ALL people entering the building each day.
- Parents will not be allowed in the building except for emergency reasons.
- Anyone with a temp of 100 or over and/or exhibiting other Covid symptoms will be moved to an alternative room to quarantine until they can be picked up and taken to a Covid testing site.
- The person monitoring them will wear a mask, face shield and gloves.
- Room to be sanitized after their departure.
- Any person sent for a test may not return to school until they present documentation of a negative test.
- If positive, they must quarantine for 2 weeks and be fever free for 48 hours prior to return.
- School work will be provided for during the quarantine period. This may be through a live stream or in video form depending on the class.
- If a person tests positive, contract tracing will be done to gather data and notify the population that they were in contact with.
- All families and staff will be asked to supply their own cloth masks and wash them at home.
- A second cloth mask will be provided by the families and kept at school.
- Disposable masks will be available if someone doesn't have one.

***** All schools are awaiting direction from the State, CDC and DOH regarding the following:**

- *Which testing sites are available to send students/staff to?*
- *If a student tests positive, does the entire class AND teacher need to quarantine or just the student?*
- *If a teacher/staff member tests positive, do all the students they came in contact with need to quarantine, or just the teacher/staff member?*

Hygiene Plan

- A brief lesson on personal hygiene and the importance of proper handwashing, cough and sneeze etiquette will be conducted at the start of each school day.
- Extra supplies of tissues, gloves, and hand sanitizer will be available in all instructional areas.
- Handwashing will be expected after all visits to the gym and playground, before and after meals and snacks, and after lavatory visits. Breaks for handwashing will be encouraged as appropriate.
- Reminder posters regarding hand washing, cough, and sneeze etiquette will be displayed in lavatories and instructional areas.
- Students and staff should bring a personal labeled water bottle filled from home. Water bottles may be refilled if needed from the water stations in the building.

Cleaning and Building Care

- Staff will routinely wipe down high touch areas (door handles, switch plates, etc.)
- Disinfectant wipes, hand sanitizer, and gloves will be available in all instruction, work, and office areas.
- Ongoing cleaning lavatories during the school day. Adequate amounts of soap and paper towels will be provided.
- Nightly deep cleaning and sanitation of the school with particular attention paid to all lavatories and instructional areas.

Instructional Considerations

- Desks and tables used by multiple students must be cleaned between classes.
- Sharing of crayons, pens, pencils, markers, scissors, etc will be prohibited.
- Each student should have their own labeled box of supplies.
- There will be a curtailment of field trips.
- An appropriate 6-foot physical distance will be maintained between each child during lessons, play, and mealtime.
- Where possible teachers will switch classes instead of students.
- PE will take place outdoors as much as possible.

Attendance Tracking

- Parents will be expected to report all student absences and the reason for the absence to the nurse.
- There will be increased monitoring of absences by the school office.

Dismissal

- Students will be dismissed from their classrooms in staggered times.
- Students will exit the building with their siblings, together, regardless of grade levels. For example an 8th grade and Prek 4 student will exit when their family car pulls up.
- Parents will pick up students in their cars- pulling up out front and staying in their car. Walkie talkies will be used to call students for dismissal.
- Bus riders will stay in their homerooms until buses arrive. They will then be called and walk directly to the bus
- Appropriate Bus protocol for seating will be followed.

Quality Control

- The above policies will be continuously reinforced through checklist and monitoring, signage, reminders, and spot checks.
- Adjustments or changes will be made based on data.

Part Four: Shutdown

Serious Outbreak

- We will shutdown immediately if a substantial outbreak occurs at St. Benedict School.
- The percentage that is deemed substantial will be determined by the CDC, Dept. of Health or Erie County

Government Agency

- If Governor Cuomo determines that a statewide shutdown is necessary, St. Benedict School will comply.

Continuation of Instruction

- If school closes we will go to Distance Learning
- All grade levels successfully completed online instruction in the Spring and will continue to do so.
- Teachers will use Google Classroom to streamline assignments

- All students will continue to complete N.Y. State Common Core Curriculum
- Faculty will use a variety of software platforms to provide direct instruction as well as record content videos.
- Students in 3rd-8th grade will have devices to take home and keep during distance learning.
- St. Benedict School will continue to do online instruction for as long as it is needed.
- Arrangements would be made so that PreK 3 and PreK 4 students of Essential Workers could continue to attend an Early Childhood Learning Program at St. Benedict School
- If this occurs- all previously stated protocol's for health and safety will be adhered to.