



St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School

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June 18, 2020

Dear Families of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School,

As you know we are still dealing with COVID 19. The shocking news is that younger people now are being infected with it and not so much the older ones. We all still need to practice “social distancing” and the wearing of masks.

Our Supt. Of Schools- Mrs. Sheri Dahl-is requiring all schools to submit a **plan of School Reentry- for August** to her office for approval by the end of June. I am working with Mr. Lazar to complete the plan. We have had many information meetings on this. We have formed our local committee of the following people: Mr. Lazar, Ms. Peck, Ms. Nollan and Ms. Kathy Solberg from the School Advisory Board. Here are some of the decisions that have been made so far:

1. **We will no longer have a bus going to St. Helen’s in Eloy** to transport children to and from our school. I discussed the decision with Fr. Ariel, Pastor and he agreed. The reasons are: Due to Covid 19 restrictions only 11 students would be allowed on the bus due to social distancing. We have 36 students who could possibly take the bus. This would mean 3 buses. Last year we paid about \$4,000 a month for the bus. We cannot afford 3 buses. Also, I noticed, that during the year sometimes there might only be 10 students on the bus as parents chose to drive their children to and from school. The bus wasn’t used as much as when it first started about 6 years ago.
2. **On the calendar we have October 12th-16th for Fall Break. This has been canceled.** The Diocese has advised us to do away with the Fall Break and save the week off for winter at Christmas time when it is predicted COVID 19 will team up with the winter flu causing more students to miss school. We realize that being out of school since the middle of March – May the students missed out on a lot of learning. Parents weren’t happy with the online school option. **By taking away the Fall Break this will allow for more instructional time in the classroom which is greatly needed.**
Mr. Lazar will decide where to put the extra week off at the Christmas break depending on the circumstances at that time. It could be before Christmas or in January after Christmas.
3. In the Reentry Plan required by the Diocese we have to tell how we are practice “social distancing” in all areas. We are currently looking to see how we can space the desks apart in the classroom. If we can not do the 6 feet they advised **we will require all students and adults to wear a mask or face shield. The decision on this will be made soon and you will be informed.**
4. **Temperature checks- we are required to do a temperature check of all adults and children before they enter school. If the temperature is 100.4 and above that person may not enter the school grounds.** I would advise each of you to get a thermometer at home to daily check your child’s temp before getting in the car for school. Each teacher will have a thermometer to check each student’s temperature at lunch time. If the child has 100.4 and above they will go to our isolation room, supervised by an adult, and will stay there till you or someone you designate picks them up.

Mission Statement: St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School Family is committed to fostering strong faith, academic excellence and selfless service.