

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN SCHOOL PLAN FOR FALL REOPENING 2020

Returning to school involves moving forward in faith and acknowledging that there is some risk as soon as we leave the safety of our homes. No place of business, worship or education can guarantee 100% protection from COVID-19. But we can all do our part to minimize those risks and the spread of the disease. You are all aware that the situation rapidly changes. We will keep you advised if things change. Please keep praying for the health and safety of all our staff, students and families.

GOALS:

- Protect our students by reducing risk of student-student or staff-student exposure using evidence-based measures
- Protect our staff by reducing risk of staff-staff or student-staff exposure using evidence-based measures
- Protect our Prince of Peace families by reducing risk of students and staff bringing home the disease to their loved ones
- Maintain a healthy and academically rigorous learning environment where students and staff feel safe, cared for, encouraged, and loved. Safety is for the whole person, including spiritual, emotional, and physical health. We want to provide a Faith-filled culture, centered on Jesus Christ and His promises for us.

EVIDENCE-BASED:

- Covid-19 is known to spread via respiratory droplets with increasing, but not definitive, evidence pointing to airborne transmission.
- Studies suggest that the virus has an affinity for nasal and oral passages.
- Enhanced personal hygiene measures and masking significantly reduce the risk of the transmission.
- Healthy children are less likely than adults to contract or transmit the virus, however, they are not immune.
- Adults with certain risk factors are more likely than their counterparts to require advanced care if contracting COVID-19.

PREVENTION:

- All students (3-8) and staff are asked to wear masks, covering their noses and mouths unless (1) eating or (2) engaging in physical fitness or active recess games. Masks are optional for students in K-2.
- A physical distance of 6 feet is encouraged while masked and mandatory when unmasked.
- All students, staff, and visitors will be screened upon entering campus. Screening includes (1) temperature check and (2) questions about known or possible exposure to COVID-19.
- Outside visitors will be limited and carefully screened prior to any movement around campus. Non-essential visitors will be asked to perform on-campus duties after the day school has ended.
- All classrooms will be disinfected twice daily: once after school has ended and once when students are at lunch.
- Transmission can occur before symptoms are present, so diligence in social distancing, hand hygiene, and masking are essential.

THE PLAN

Arrival:

- Parents will be asked to drop children off. Parents will not be allowed to walk their children to the classroom or roam campus.
- All children will be dropped off near the lunch area and will report immediately to their teacher or Mrs. Smallwood for questions and temperature check. Those students arriving for morning Extended Care will have their temperature taken at the time of arrival.
- Parents may only be on campus for essential business or upon request by the school and are required to enter/exit only through the front gate and head directly to the office.

Recess:

- Each classroom will have assigned areas to play in for each recess. They will be rotated throughout the day and week.
- Play equipment will not be shared with other classes.
- Masks will not be required for active play and games encouraging distance will be prioritized.

Lunches:

- We will eat outside as usual. Marks will be placed at the lunch tables six feet apart. Students will be asked to sit at the mark, and not in clusters. Times of eating with masks off have the greatest potential for transmission. All efforts will be made to minimize this risk. We may need to stagger lunch times.
- Students and staff will sanitize hands before and after their meal.

Classrooms:

- The rooms will be arranged with as much distancing between students as possible.
- Students will sanitize their hands as they enter and exit the classroom at any point in the day.
- Students will be asked to sanitize or wash their hands in the classroom as determined by the teacher. This will be related to the academic activities of the day.
- Teachers will make every effort to teach and remind children of the procedures that will help them stay healthy.
- Outdoor spaces will be used for instruction as often as possible.
- Doors and windows will remain open in the classrooms.

Masks:

- This is a controversial subject. The directions we have right now from CDC say: Face coverings should be worn by staff and students as feasible and are **most** essential in times when physical distancing is difficult.
- We wish to err on the side of safety, so while masks remain controversial in the general public, we choose to follow the recent recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the CDC.
- Try to find a mask for your child that fits and is comfortable for them.
- We know that these are children. It will be impossible to make sure that they are masked every minute of the day. We will remind them, however, when they are in close contact with their friends they should be wearing their mask.

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.

Students or staff who become sick at school or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 will be quarantined and sent home immediately.

We want students to feel safe, comfortable and loved. They will be reminded daily of God's love and care for them. We will do our best to implement safe practices without instilling fear or anxiety. We are in partnership with you, our families. We know that you will reinforce safe practices at home, also.

If you are hesitant about sending your child back to school, please let us know. We will work with you. Please advise us if your child has health conditions that may put them at a higher risk. We will partner with you to find ways to keep them safe.

If your child is sick, please keep them home. If a family member is experiencing symptoms or has tested positive, please keep your child home. We will work with you to ensure they can stay on-track with their education.

Prince of Peace Lutheran School is a small private Christian school that is able to react quickly as needed to situations that may arise. Please know that we want the best for all POP students, families, and staff. We love your students. We recognize that each family has different perspectives and circumstances to consider and we welcome your questions. We thank you for your continued patience, trust and partnership in the Christian Education process.

Prince of Peace will only go to remote instruction if the state or county mandates all schools to do so.