

2020-21 St. John Lutheran School Plan

Dear St. John School Families:

As the 2020-21 school year begins, we will be offering in-person learning five full days a week. As an option for parents of enrolled students, St. John will offer remote instruction in “real time” (live-streamed synchronously tracking the school day schedule) for parents who prefer that their children attend St. John from home on either a full-time or hybrid basis.

As we plan for the 2020-21 school year, the health and safety of our St. John School Family – students, parents, extended family/friends and ministry team members – is our first priority. Our current plan will include the use of face coverings, social distancing, medical screenings, infection protocols, new pick-up and drop off procedures, enhanced sanitation/cleaning practices, and other items to enhance the overall health and safety of our St. John School Family.

As this plan is implemented, the *2020-21 St. John School Plan* will be under review by our Ministry Team and St. John School Board. Part of the review will also include feedback from parents (via surveys and personal discussions). There may be changes and adjustments made – in line with general health & safety principles and guidelines – to better serve the students and families entrusted to our care through the ministry of St. John Lutheran School.

The St. John School Board has met, deliberated, and developed a framework of protocols that will support the reopening of St. John this August. By following clear and careful procedures, we can work together to keep our school open and continue in-person learning. There has been and will continue to be much thought and effort in the development and implementation of the various aspects of the *St. John School Plan*.

It is my prayer – that I share with the members of the St. John School Board and our entire Ministry Team – that our St. John School Family of students, parents, volunteers, staff members and called workers lovingly embrace this plan to collectively protect each other as “Our St. John School Family Plan.” May the Lord bless all our efforts to the praise and glory of His name.

With Love in Christ,

Jon Woldt, Principal/Staff Minister

PC: St. John School Board

Joe Lofsness, Chairman
Greg Haak, Secretary/Parent Relations
Ray Linnemann, Finance
Peter Kolch, School Recruitment/Outreach
Jon Woldt, Principal

Advisory: Paul Massey, Youth Ministry Elder
Kevin Raddatz, Pastor
Tim Knoebel, Chairman, St. John Congregation

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Resources Used in Plan Development:

ISBE Guidance: <https://www.isbe.net/coronavirus>

Center for Disease Control (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP): <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/>

<p>Face Coverings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of face coverings (e.g., face masks, gaiters, etc.) by teachers, staff, and students while in the school building will be required during the school day and in Before and After School Care. <i>Note: The use of masks is going to be a challenge in many ways – especially with young children – yet they are part of our overall plan to secure the health and safety of all.</i> • Teachers will wear appropriate face coverings while instructing (e.g., face shields while instructing appropriate subjects) and face masks while working one-on-one with a student in closer proximity. • Face covering guidelines will be encouraged by teachers, with gentle reminders and encouragement (i.e., struggles with masking will not be treated as violations worthy of strict reprimand). • Physician notes are required for those who are not able to wear a face covering. • Each cloth or disposable face covering should be taken home daily to be cleaned/thrown away. • Each student is to have an extra/replacement face covering that will be stored in the classroom for use as needed. It should be kept in a clear zip lock bag with the student’s name on it. • Teachers will seek opportunities throughout the day (e.g. outside classes and activities) to work mask-free.
<p>Social Distancing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing will be a fundamental principle for all activities and observed, as much as possible. • Students will generally remain in their classrooms, and movement in hallways, especially with multiple classes, will be limited. • As students need to enter another classroom (e.g., Math instruction at a different level), health and safety procedures will be in place.
<p>Health & Wellness</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If students or teachers answer “yes” to any of these questions, <u>they should stay home:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19? ○ Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or sore throat? <p><i>Note: If a student has a signed physician’s note as it relates to seasonal allergies, asthma or other underlying, preexisting conditions this will be taken into consideration.</i></p>

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Health & Wellness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?○ Have you had a new loss of taste or smell?○ Have you had muscle pains or chills?○ Have you had a new headache?○ Have you had nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea? <ul style="list-style-type: none">● If a student becomes sick at school, his/her temperature will be taken in the school office. If the temperature is above 100.4° or the student develops any <u>two</u> of the above symptoms, he/she will be removed from the classroom, taken to a designated area under adult supervision (e.g., office area or at the school entrance), and will need to be picked up immediately by a parent/guardian. The student will be able to return to school once he/she has been fever-free, <u>without the aid of fever-reducing medication</u>, for 48 hours. Parents are encouraged to take their child to their physician for additional testing depending on the symptoms. <i>Note: St. John reserves the right to require a doctor's note or a proof of a negative COVID-19 test before the student is allowed to return to school.</i>● If a family member of a student has a clinically-diagnosed or laboratory positive COVID-19 diagnosis, the related student will be required to quarantine at home for 14 consecutive days. <i>Note: St. John reserves the right to add additional requirements that must be met before the student ends his/her quarantine.</i>● If a student or teacher contracts COVID-19, that student or teacher will be under the care and guidance of a physician. Such student or teacher will be allowed to return to school after a 14-consecutive day quarantine and a negative COVID-19 test. St. John must receive written proof of the negative COVID-19 test from a doctor.● Any student(s) who were in close proximity with any student or teacher who contracts COVID-19 will move to remote instruction and be self-quarantined and clear of any symptoms for a period of at least 14 days before returning to in-person instruction.● Upon learning that any student or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, St. John will properly report the case and reserves the right to take appropriate actions for the health and safety of all, including temporarily closing the related classroom or school, as necessary.● In the event that any classroom may not be used due to health concerns, remote instruction will be implemented.● In the case of a clinically-diagnosed or laboratory positive COVID-19 case on campus, all school families will be notified. Families will be told whether the positive case exists in their child's classroom, or not in their child's classroom. The identity of any student with a positive COVID diagnosis will not be released by St. John. <i>Note: Refer to ISBE Guidance for further specific scenarios.</i>
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<p>Cleaning/Sanitizing/Disinfecting Protocols</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. John will clean, sanitize and disinfect frequently touched surfaces/items on a regular basis. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Desktop Surfaces ○ Playground Equipment (e.g. balls, hoops, etc.) ○ Door Handles ○ Light Switches ○ Sink Handles ○ Bathroom Surfaces ○ Water Bottle Fillers ○ Classroom Manipulatives ○ Preschool Toys ○ Upper Level Locker Doors <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Note: See chart at the end of Plan for more detailed information.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning means the removal of dirt and debris from an item or surface. • Disinfecting means treating an item or surface with a product that kills bacteria. • Sanitizing means treating an item or surface with a product that kills bacteria and neutralizes viruses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New water bottle fillers have been installed on both school floors, and drinking fountains will not be used. Water bottles should be washed at home daily in hot, soapy water or dishwasher. • New HEPA air purifiers that filter and circulate air up to 5 times an hour have been installed in each classroom. • Bathrooms will be disinfected and cleaned daily. • St John’s professional cleaning crew will “deep clean” each classroom on a regular basis.
<p>Hand Washing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand-washing and hand-sanitizing are two of the very important things we can do to keep ourselves and others healthy. As such, students and staff are expected to wash or sanitize their hands in the following situations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Upon first arrival in the building each morning ○ After touching face/blowing nose/coughing into hand ○ Before and after eating ○ Before and after going outside ○ After toileting ○ When a student moves from one room to another ○ Before departure from campus

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Health & Safety Reminders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added information for certifying for the health and wellness will be given to parents and guardians as it becomes available throughout the course of the year. • Wellness reminders will be posted in various forms (posters/signage in various forms) will serve as reminders prior to entering the facility and throughout the building as well. • Plexiglass shielding will be placed in various areas in the facility for added health and safety for all. <i>Note: The plexiglass shields are in addition to and not to replace the health and safety measures (e.g., masks, social distancing, etc.) that are part of the 2020-21 St. John School Plan.</i>
Student Drop-Off	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellness screening questions will be asked and students' temperatures will be taken before they enter the building through the West entrance. • Parents (or those entrusted with transporting the students) will need to wait until the students have been screened before leaving campus. • If students attempting to attend classes have a temperature above 100.4°, they will need to go home. They will be able to return once they have been fever-free, <u>without the aid of fever-reducing medication</u>, for 48 hours, provided they do not fall any other COVID-19 restrictions. • Hand sanitizers will be positioned near the classroom doors for students to use after they have put away their book bags, coats, boots, and other personal items brought to school. • If a student arrives late for school, he/she should enter the Main entrance to have his/her temperature checked by members of the ministry team or trained volunteers. <i>Note: Lower-level students may need added assistance by a "masked" parent. However, parents should not underestimate the ability of students to carry out their responsibilities without a parent or guardian present to help, if/once properly taught.</i>
Student Pick-Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student pick-up procedures will be altered from previous years. The students will meet the parents/guardians outside of the school building, if possible. • Pick-up times for classroom/families will be staggered to avoid too many people in any one area at a time.

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<p>Parents and Visitors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are striving to limit parents and other visitors from entering the school building. Please use phone calls and email as much as possible to communicate with teachers and office staff. • To the extent that parents and other visitors must enter the school building, they will be subject to temperature check and be required to wear a face mask and maintain proper social distancing. • Parents are expected to remain outside of classrooms.
<p>Restrooms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classrooms will be assigned specific times to use the restrooms, but, of course, no student will be denied the use of the restroom when needed. • 3-year old preschool will use its dedicated restroom. Kindergarten and 4-year old preschool will use the downstairs restrooms. 1st/2nd, 3rd/4th, 5th/6th, and 7th/8th grades will use the upstairs restrooms. • Proper hand-washing techniques and social distancing will be taught and encouraged while using the restrooms. • Only 2 students will be allowed in a restroom at a time.
<p>Lunch Time</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch will be held in each classroom (or potentially served outside on special occasions). • Sharing of lunches will not be allowed. Each student should have his/her own lunch.
<p>Recess</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outside recess will be essential, but will require new care and caution. • Recess times will be staggered in order to reduce cross-classroom interactions. • Face coverings will not be required, so long as social distancing is maintained. • Playground items that students use (e.g., balls, hoops, etc.) will be sanitized daily. • Students will wash their hand or use hand sanitizer immediately before and following a recess period.
<p>Chapel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will hold our weekly chapel services in the church (potentially with a select number of students) and live stream chapel services to each classroom.
<p>Sharing of Supplies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing of school supplies will not be allowed. Each student should have his/her own set of supplies. • If classroom materials need to be shared, they will be sanitized after each use.

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Singing in Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unfortunately, St. John will not schedule student & Junior Choir singing in church at this time. (Junior Choir will not meet as a group to start the school year.) <p><i>Note: Current worship restrictions limit attendance to 50 persons at a time with social distancing in place. Please register online to attend.</i></p>
Field Trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At this time, our classrooms will not be taking field trips.
Athletics and School Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At this time, we have not made any official decisions about our school events (Picnic, Grandparents' Day, Christmas Eve Service, etc.). We are working with the Shoreland Lutheran Schools for guidance on interscholastic events. To the extent permissible, we will be offering fall sports for parents who wish to have their children participate with health and safety protocols in place.
School Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance will be taken each day for in-person and remote instruction students.
Home Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our teachers will continue to conduct home visits with school families. These visits will be offered either virtually or in-person, at the parents' choice. If conducted in-person, teachers are encouraged to have them outside maintaining proper social distancing.
Liability Waiver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To support the approach of the <i>St. John School Plan</i>, parents will be required to sign a liability waiver.

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Cleaning, Sanitizing, Disinfecting Protocols Chart

<u>Cleaning Surface</u>	<u>Sanitize</u>	<u>Daily</u>	<u>Each Use</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Door Handles	x	x (3)		3 times per day
Bottle Fill Station	x	x		Used with adult supervision. Regular drinking fountain will not be in use.
Puzzles, books			x	Rotating 3-day quarantine
Toys	x	x		Limited toys are used and inventoried daily to ensure all are sanitized.
Classroom Manipulatives	x	x		Run through dishwasher or cleaning solution
Garbage Cans	x	x		Garbage bags used in each container and emptied daily.
Classroom Rugs and Carpets		x		Vacuum daily when children are not present (Sanitation mist used as recommended by product directions.)
Hard Floors	x	x		Hallways cleaned and mopped daily.
Locker Doors	x	x		
Bathroom Surfaces	x	x		Faucet, sink, countertop, toilets
Playground Balls & Toys	x		x	Sanitize before/after each use