

# St. Richard's Episcopal School

## HEALTHY DRAGON NEWS: June 19, 2020



### What is St. Richard's doing to ensure a safe opening of school on campus?

- Increasing our cleaning services, investing in additional cleaning equipment and hand sanitizing stations, and improving air movement throughout the building.
- Upgrading items such as carpet, flooring and furniture that encourage physical distancing.
- Purchasing outdoor canopies/coverings to enable learning outdoors.
- Upgrading technology devices for faculty, students and classrooms; providing additional professional development opportunities for our faculty.
- Preparing for students who are unable to attend on campus with technology upgrades as needed.
- Reconfiguring classroom space and designing traffic flows to maximize space for physical distancing.
- Updating the 2020-2021 Handbook and preparing an "At a Glance" manual with several policy and procedure changes to ensure the safety of all community members.
- Securing additional training on PPE and safeguarding all members of the SRES community to deter the spread of Covid 19.
- Improving our health care facility and providing additional space for ill children and adults as needed.
- Eliminating and reducing shared classroom items.
- Preparing staggered start times for drop-off and restructuring dismissal (details forthcoming). Families with carpools and siblings in multiple divisions will have flexibility through online registration. **Parents may register their children for aftercare 24 hours in advance through online registration; it will initially take place until 5:00 p.m.** As the school year progresses, the goal is to extend our aftercare hours to 6:00 p.m., as well as offer morning care.

**EC**

**START & STOP TIMES**

8:20-3:20

**LD**

**START & STOP TIMES**

8:10-3:20

**MD**

**START & STOP TIMES**

8:00-3:20



### What can my family do to prepare for and contribute to a safe start of the school year?

- Plan for care for your children in the event of a potential exposure, confirmed exposure, or suspected and/or confirmed diagnosis of Covid 19. Guidelines from the CDC and Marion County Health Department will be followed. \*
- Encourage your child(ren) to participate in summer reading, journaling if appropriate, and keeping their bodies and minds engaged and active.

-Understand our need to limit visitors inside the building, including parents, unless arranged in advance (with masks) through the appropriate division head on an individual basis. We understand that greeting one another in the morning and safely walking your child into school is a beloved routine for many of our families, but we kindly ask for your patience as we hope to minimize the spread of Covid 19. \*

-Complete regular electronic health forms prior to each week of school as well as take your child's temperature regularly. The school will ask families to take their child(ren)'s temperature each morning prior to leaving for school. \*

-Adhere to additional sick and wellness policies, including remaining at home for 72 hours following a fever as well as remaining at home if experiencing any Covid 19 symptoms as prescribed by the CDC and Marion County Health Department. \*

-Avoid sending additional personal items to school including snacks, lunch and cloth materials, besides backpacks. The school is determining the best approach for providing water to students and will communicate this in our next communication.

### **What other changes can my child and/or family expect?**

-In an effort to physically distance, we will optimize our classroom space and limit the number of transitions during the school day as well as avoid large group assemblies, chapels, and other gatherings. Rest assured we will be creative in holding these virtually through technology and/or using outdoor spaces. An abridged daily schedule will be forthcoming\*

-As being outdoors reduces the chance of spreading Covid 19 and allows for more space, we will spend more time outside learning, eating, and exercising.

## **PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE & MASK WEARING THIS SUMMER**

Practice wearing cloth masks in preparation for our opening. SRES intends on following the most up to date CDC recommendations on the wearing of cloth masks and intends on providing these to families in advance. A detailed explanation of these guidelines, along with age recommendations, will be provided upon receiving guidance from the Marion County Health Department and a review by our advisory task force. Practice frequent hand-washing and other precautionary/good hygiene measures to prevent the spread of Covid 19. For younger students, practice forehead and/or touch-less temperature checks.

-Except in unusual circumstances and with advance notice and parent permission, the majority of field trips will be postponed until further notice. \*

-Students will eat lunch and snacks in classrooms or outside with disposable utensils and a variety of safety precautions until otherwise indicated. Hot and cold lunches will be alternated accordingly. \*

-At this time, we are uncertain if athletics and other enrichment offerings will be offered. \*

-Your family can expect that we are doing everything possible to ensure a smooth and safe transition back on campus, and we can't wait to see you all in August!

*\*Upon final recommendations from the Marion County Health Department and review from the advisory task force, expect our next communication to be distributed in July with an updated handbook shortly thereafter.*