



ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC SCHOOL

2020 - 2021

St. Pius X Catholic School Action Plan

CONTACT

PASTOR

Fr. Pat O'Brien: (210)365-6424

E-mail: frpat@stpiusxsa.org

PRINCIPAL

Ms. Jenny Kerr : (210)849-9233

E-mail : jkerr@stpiusxsa.org

VICE PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Cathy Brown:(210)824-6431

E-mail : cbrown@stpiusxsa.org

School Email: spxschool@stpiusxsa.org

OUR SCHOOL

St. Pius X Catholic School

7734 Robin Rest Dr, San Antonio, TX
78209

BUILDING LEADERS FOR CHRIST

A Message from Our Administration

Dear SPX Families,

SPX staff have been hard at work as we prepare to welcome students back to campus full time on August 17, 2020. We will remain flexible and will follow the orders from the CDC and the Archdiocese of San Antonio.

Research, medical expertise, our SPX mission, and love for our families and staff are at the center of every part of our plan. Your voice through Town Hall meetings, phone calls and livestream conversations have helped form the decisions we have made in the best interest of our students, staff and your family.

SPX will offer a traditional school setting and a virtual learning option for those who need or decide to stay home. With a spacious campus, large sized rooms, and a low student-to-teacher ratio, implementing changes to mitigate the virus is doable. All expectations and protocols will be based on current guidelines and may change as we receive additional guidance from officials.

OUR MESSAGE

To ease the transition for our students who have not been in the classroom for 6 months we will have early release days the first week of school. School hours the first week will be 7:45am – 1:00pm. Extended day is offered for free until 3:30pm for those needing it the first week of school. Rates will apply to those who need Extended Day service until 6pm.

The CDC announced that a school contingency plan is being developed. We will wait to hear these CDC guidelines and will communicate the contingency plans to you when available. These have been challenging times for our world but know that the SPX staff is confident in returning and committed to educating your children. With great joy we look forward to August 17th! Thank you for trusting us with your most precious and for knowing that in our mission to Build Leaders for Christ it is our strong partnership with you that enables us to be most successful!

Blessings, -Jenny Kerr

CAMPUS OPERATIONS - What You Can Expect

Arrival and departure times are distanced to discourage close student proximity.

ARRIVAL: AM Car Line Drop-Off (7:10 am - 7:45 am) Face masks are worn at drop off so staff may interact with parent and child while asking questions and taking temperature. For efficiency, pull your vehicle up to the staff on duty for questions & temperature taking. Kinder – 8th grade report to their homeroom class. Early Learning Center students (PK3 & PK4) may be walked to their classroom if parent parks in church parking lot. Students feel connected when they arrive early to school and have an opportunity to get situated before RNN (Rebel News Network). RNN starts at 7:50am in prayer followed by important announcements and celebrations. Please plan for extra time in the morning so your child is ready for learning by 7:40am.

DISMISSAL: PM Car Line Pick-Up (3:00pm – 3:30pm) To ensure a safe dismissal, the office closes at 2pm every day, except for emergencies, to help with dismissal. If a student must be picked up early, please inform the office of when we may expect you. While we discourage early pick up, if it is necessary, please pick up before 2:00pm or 11:00am on a noon dismissal day. Families are assigned a specific gate/door through which to enter and exit to disperse traffic flow. Hallways display simple, visual markers (green/red) to designate which side of the hallway to walk. Staff monitor and assist students in the hallway during arrival and dismissal times. Students come and go from school with 3 items: water bottle, lunch, and two face masks. (SPX will provide 5 cloth face masks per student)

CAMPUS OPERATIONS - What You Can Expect

ATTENDANCE: Send your healthy children to school every day! Attendance is taken for traditional and virtual learning students; however, we will not present Perfect Attendance Awards for the 2020 and 2021 year. We show our respect and care for one another when we stay home if we are sick.

CLASSROOMS: Upon entering the room, students sanitize their hands. Furniture arrangement allows for safe social distance between students and teacher with limited face-to-face contact. Students maintain their own supplies, which are stored separately from others in assigned cubbies/desks. In the MS, transitions from each class are monitored with limited interaction in lines. Teachers are responsible for the cleaning of student spaces immediately after each use. Outdoor community spaces will be available for all grades to use throughout the instructional day.

ASSEMBLIES & GATHERINGS: We will limit interaction to small groups and limit adult to adult interactions where social distancing cannot be maintained. Meetings of larger groups where there is not sufficient room for social distancing will be held virtually until it is safe to meet in person. School mass is on Wednesdays at 8:15am. Our school will follow protocols outlined by the parish that have proven successful. Students wear masks, sit near classmates and social distance from other grades. Those receiving Communion stand at their place and receive in the hand. The sign of peace occurs without handshaking or hugging. We will consider a second school mass if the number of face to face students does not allow for required social distancing.

CAFETERIA: At this time, the cafeteria will not prepare lunch. We encourage lunch to come to school with your child as we limit outside visitors during the school day. Teaching and practicing with your child now, on how to open containers and juice boxes is greatly appreciated. Students and staff use a designated entrance and exit to the cafeteria. All wash hands with soap and water before lunch and hand sanitize before entering the cafeteria.

During lunchtime we will:

- *Seat students 6 feet apart*
- *Provide distancing with reduced numbers in the cafeteria*
- *Encourage the option to sit outside, weather permitting*
- *Properly sanitize tables and chairs between groups*

CAMPUS OPERATIONS - What You Can Expect

PHYSICAL EDUCATION, OUTDOOR SPACES & RECESS: Outdoor learning and play are an important part of the school day. Outdoor spaces for learning and outdoor experiences are available to include: the courtyard, the breezeway, picnic tables near field, the outdoor altar, and the outside gathering place near our new Prayer Garden. Recess and PE is every day for all grades. Recess is with only their class. All wash hands with soap and water and if that is not possible use hand sanitizer after recess and PE. In PE, students social distance while exercising. Locker rooms are off limits, so no PE dress out at this time.

MUSIC & CHOIR: Music classes continue with precautions in place. Adding drumming instead of a wind instrument and incorporating music appreciation and rhythm and movement will be added features highlighting our fine arts program. Singing will require masks and social distancing. Our ukulele program will continue.

UNIFORMS & HAIR: Students attending school in person follow the uniform dress code. The School Yard (210.734.2912) is open and our used uniform closet is open but by appointment only. Call the school office between 9am-2pm if you would like to schedule a time to shop. The hair length policy for boys is lifted until further notice. All hair must be its natural color, please.

VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS TO CAMPUS: Currently, we are a closed campus with no volunteers or lunch guests. Visitors are not permitted except to pick up a sick child or to pick up a child for an appointment. A visitor must wear a mask at all times. Students are called to the office once parent is in the foyer of the school. Families considering SPX will not tour the school grounds during the school day.

EXTENDED DAY, CLUBS & ENRICHMENT: We offer Extended Day with safety precautions and modifications in place. Extended Day is from 3pm-6pm. Enrichment, tutoring and clubs will be explored and offered on a case by case basis.

ELEMENTARY NOTES: Masks are required for ALL students grades PK3-4th grade and all adults. We will maintain limited exposure to other students across grade levels. Specials (PE, Music, STREAM & Library) will disinfect in between each specials rotation and when feasible, use a different area of space to limit back to back usage. Outdoor spaces will also be utilized.

**HEALTH & SAFETY
GUIDELINES**

MIDDLE SCHOOL NOTES: Masks are required for ALL students grades 5-8 and all adults. Extra passing time provides time for cleaning. STUCO, NJHS, JOSHUA PROJECT and other clubs will work to find creative ways to foster community and service learning while practicing safety protocols as we commit to our mission - Building Leaders for Christ.

HEALTH & SAFETY GUIDELINES

If your child exhibits any of the below symptoms in a way that is not normal for him/her, please keep your child home.

- Feverish or a temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea

TEMPERATURE CHECKS:

AT HOME- Please begin checking your child's temperature every morning starting two (2) weeks before the first day of school. It should be very consistent with any oral thermometer. When school begins, if there is an elevation of more than a degree, consider keeping your child home for the day. All staff and students will temperature check prior to entering school grounds. SPX staff will self-screen every morning before arriving to campus.

AT SCHOOL-A SPX Staff will take your child's temperature with a touchless thermometer in the drop off car line and will ask the driver two (2) CDC questions related to COVID19. Those with a temp of 100.0 degrees or higher may not enter school grounds. SPX staff may take your child's temperature throughout the day if necessary and a parent will be notified if there is a concern. *Due to margin of error of touchless thermometers and as an extra added precaution, SPX will use 100.0 and not the prescribed 100.4.

HEALTH & SAFETY GUIDELINES

FACE MASKS: ALL STUDENTS and STAFF wear masks when entering the school and while inside the school building. Staff may wear face shields to allow for students to see mouth movement for intentional instruction and as needed. Face masks must be appropriately designed with appropriate images. Neck Gaiter Masks and face shields are also welcome.

GENERAL HEALTH & WELLNESS: Students, teachers, and staff sanitize and/or wash hands frequently with hand sanitizer which is available in every classroom. All wash hands with soap and water before lunch and use hand sanitizer upon entering the cafeteria. Hand washing signs are posted in the restrooms.

PERSONAL WATER BOTTLES: All bring a clear water bottle for personal use. Names should be clearly written on the bottles or containers. Students are encouraged to use our touchless refilling water station located in the hallway. Water fountains are not operational, at this time.

HANDS FREE: Backpacks are not allowed until further notice. Homework is downloaded in Google Classroom with links for review or fillable forms for practice and extensions. We are working on a new library book check out system which fosters the continued love for reading both with a hard copy of text and virtually. Stay tuned! We understand that some students may need to carry a small bag/purse to store personal hygiene items and that is perfectly fine.

INCREASED CLEANING: Enhanced cleaning protocols are established for the daytime cleaning crew to disinfect high touch surface areas during the school day. The evening cleaning crew disinfects the school, nightly. Every space is sprayed with Vital Oxide by the night crew. Vital Oxide works at killing COVID for 24 hours. Teachers and staff also have the cleaning and disinfecting materials to clean routinely and will ensure safe storage of cleaning products. New HEPA filters are in each classroom to help the HVAC circulating of air and trap pollutants.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES: We are committed to the social-emotional wellness and development of each child. Our school counselor is working alongside teachers and parents to best support a healthy mind and body. She is also available to meet with parents individually and students individually or in small group.

LEARNING & INSTRUCTION

LEARNING & INSTRUCTION

Online Learning Management System (LMS): We are utilizing a unified online learning management system - GOOGLE CLASSROOM - for the 2020-2021 school year. Whether on campus or at-home, instruction and learning continue through this unified platform for all grade levels. August professional development for teachers includes training on features and communication tools within Google Classroom to further enhance instruction. We are currently designing guidelines all teachers will follow so the transition from school to home is seamless to students and parents. Parents and students will also receive training, as needed, at the beginning of the year.

Google Classroom allows for:

- Student daily login and information all in one place: live teaching, teacher videos, tutorials, PowerPoint presentations, assignments, and announcements
- Teachers to personalize instruction to meet student needs
- Students to complete and submit assignments
- Teachers to grade and provide real-time feedback
- Everything to take place through one LMS.

PRIMARY CHOICE (IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION): We are committed to providing an exceptional Catholic education for students. For over 60 years, we have maintained a long-standing tradition of love, education, moral development, and spirituality. Our caring and dedicated staff, along with a well-developed curriculum, prepare students with the necessary tools to meet and exceed the challenges of secondary school and life. Teachers utilize Google Classroom to guide and facilitate instruction, while also providing enriching in-person experiences. Assignments are submitted on this platform, and at times, in a traditional manner. Our students will effortlessly transfer from one medium to another – they will be 21st century learners! If a student is absent, some schoolwork may already be in Google Classroom and in-person assignments may be picked up in the office. Email your teacher and Mindy Hughes when your child is absent.

SECONDARY CHOICE (VIRTUAL LEARNING): Virtual learning allows your child to continue with the same rigorous curriculum offered in the classroom. A Virtual Director facilitates morning meetings and prayer time. Interaction with the Virtual Director is ongoing. Elementary children (PK3-4th grade) follow an online schedule appropriate for their age and development. Middle School students (grade 5-8) follow a separate online schedule. Direct instruction is

delivered in real time for at least the core subjects (ELA, Religion & Math) by the classroom teacher via Google Meets on most days. The duration of live teaching depends on student age but elementary and MS, while a tad different, both follow a specific schedule. Prerecorded video lessons, game-based learning tasks, pre-assigned work and formative assessments are available to students via Google Classroom. A virtual learner is required to follow their schedule which includes logging on daily to Google Meets and completing and submitting assignments. Students must attend scheduled virtual lessons on Google Meets or he/she is marked absent. A 90% attendance rate is required. Transitioning between traditional school and virtual learning occurs at the 9 weeks; however, in the best interest of the student and family needs, the Principal may approve reentry into the other learning platform sooner.

TUITION: Tuition is a fixed rate for the 2020-2021 school year. Our staff is working hard to meet the ever-changing needs of our community and with a fixed budget. We are absorbing the additional costs during these times. We appreciate your support and understanding, and love having you as a part of our SPX Community!

STATE MANDATED DISTANCE LEARNING CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR ALL: If Texas is mandated to follow an at-home decree order or if an entire class is at home, St. Pius X Catholic School is prepared to continue instruction through our unified online platform, which students and parents will already been utilizing since the start of the school year. If virtual learning is required for all, then teachers will provide daily, scheduled, live and recorded instruction through Google Classroom.

ACADEMIC AWARDS: Whether instruction occurs on campus or at home, students continue to be recognized for their achievements. Students can earn High Honors and Honor Roll. Our same grading criteria and guidelines apply

COMMUNICATION: Information is shared via:

- Email
- SPX weekly newsletter (posted on our school website)
- Social media (Facebook and Instagram)

Is your email and cell phone information correct in RenWeb?

Call the school office or email us at any time. We are here for you!
210-824-6431