

SAINT BERNADETTE SCHOOL



Small school...still from a distance.

[School Website](#)

[Parish Website](#)

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our task force has been gathering information and setting up important paths for re-opening this fall. As I have noted before, we are committed to bringing all students back on campus as often as possible. Given the choice and opportunity, we would prefer at the very least to have students in grades kindergarten through second grade in the building everyday. Logistically this is possible, but to do it will take a very bold view of student and teacher management, and we are still processing our options. Such a move would require dialogue with and permissions from parish council, which has not yet occurred. It is also possible, but may not be affordable, to bring all students on to campus everyday. In this case, the learning environment would look very different, and face-to-face time with the homeroom teacher might be only for a couple of hours.



*Our faculty and the task force is operating under the assumption that current guidelines for social distancing, hygiene, and health screenings will still be in place, or will be **more** prescriptive, depending on the spread of the virus by August. We are also planning for the likelihood of partial or full (though temporary) distance learning. Hopefully, this will be limited to*

flu season, but regardless, we must make sure we have all that we need in order to provide a strong St. Bernadette experience to our students, even if it needs to be remote sometimes.

We will need your input to help guide us in our next steps, and we intend to send out a series of surveys.

- 1) You will receive a survey in the next few days that asks you about your preferences as we welcome students back to school. It will include opportunities for you to indicate your level of concern regarding safety, attendance, and student life.*
- 2) After that survey, a second survey focusing on your internet capability will be launched.*
- 3) The final survey, if necessary, would focus on your preferences between specific either/or options that may need more input.*

We want to make it possible for every family to speak directly to a faculty member or a member of our task force about their family's specific concerns or needs, and we may need to follow up with you depending on the responses to our surveys. Therefore, these surveys will not be anonymous. We are small enough and take pride in our ability to be family to one another. It is very important to us that each family's input is recorded and considered. To that end, you might receive a phone call in the next several weeks.

Listed below are the names and email addresses of our committee members. If you have any questions, feel free to contact one of us.

Ingram, Lizanne Email: lingram@stbernadetteamelia.org

Binoeder, Heather and Marcus Email: Binoederfamily@hotmail.com

Brokamp, Kelly Email: kellybrokamp@gmail.com

Brunner, Diane Email: dbrunner6@gmail.com

Brunner, Matt Email: mbrunner@stbernadetteamelia.org

Busch, Lindsay Email: coltsfan200818@gmail.com

Dickhaus, John Email: jdorders@yahoo.com

Gregory, Jennifer Email: jennifer.gregory44@yahoo.com

Henninger, Kim Email: khenninger@stbernadetteamelia.org

Jungkunz, Tara Email: tara.jungkunz@gmail.com

Kent, Bridget Email: bridget.kent@cchmc.org

Martin, Karen Email: kmartinkmm@yahoo.com

Mattei, Megan Email: mmattei@stbernadetteamelia.org

Meisman, Craig Email: meismanpc@yahoo.com

Neuhaus, Megan Email: mneuhaus@stbernadetteamelia.org

Padgett, Belinda Email: belinda.padgett@newport.kyschools.us

Pikal, Zakk Email: zakk@fioptics.com

There is a lot to process on our end in the coming weeks, but please continue to communicate whenever you have a question or concern. If you need to contact me privately, leave your name in a text message to my cell: 513-226-3301, or email me with a time and number to call you.

In Christ,

~Mrs. Ingram

Several people have wondered if the prospect of (possible) staggered attendance and home-based learning might change the tuition schedule. At this point, it is important to understand that:

1. The cost of doing business as a Catholic school only increases in this COVID environment because of augmentations in software, online subscriptions, the need for extra supervision of students and the space to do that, PPE, extra devices for students and hardware for teachers. Although we know some families may be especially hit hard with child care needs during a distance-learning episode, we are limited in our ability to help that situation. For now, the best I can suggest is that a sub-group of fundraisers address the economic concerns as a separate enterprise. This might be a good topic for a separate conversation, or for a parent Zoom meeting. I completely empathize with parents trying to "do it all" and the toll that COVID distancing has taken on family spirits and family budgets. For our part, we intend to provide a safe environment for as many students as possible to alleviate this concern as much as possible..
2. Some students and families may need or may elect to experience enrollment at St. Bernadette as home-based instruction regardless of the safety of our environment. The work that teachers must do in order to address distance learning - for one or for all - is very demanding. In other words, from our point of view as educators, there is nothing "less" about the education we will provide if we are in a distance learning modality.
3. We believe in the value of the St. Bernadette experience. If your child struggled during the third trimester, your teacher (and your principal) knew it and steps were taken to do our best to minimize a "COVID slide." Many parents have favorably commented on the responsiveness of our teachers. If we have to resort to a distance learning modality, in the future, you and your child benefit from being our in our smaller community.
4. Our support network, namely the parish budget and state subsidies, will both be stressed or reduced for FY 2020-2021. Thus, even if we believed that tuition in a distance-learning situation could be reduced, there is currently nothing available in the budget to suggest we are able to do so.

If you are concerned about how your family will "make it work" this fall there will be an opportunity on the first survey to share that concern, and we will be following up with you on this matter. The challenges of COVID-19 vary from household to household, and we want to do our best to consider them all. Please know your needs are very important to our efforts. Likewise, if you find yourself uniquely blessed financially, please consider increasing your contributions to the school or parish. Everything helps.

~Mrs. I

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[Recess Volunteer Sign-up](#)

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[Parent/Student Handbook](#)

[Virtues in Practice \(at home materials -](#)

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[Scrip Order Form](#)

PTO

Virtus Login

Schoolbelles (code S1952)

Gradelink

Box Tops Bonus App

Sign Up for REMIND

Mental Health Resources (click below)

1n5 Foundation (for great information)

Mind-Peace (click on Search for Providers)

