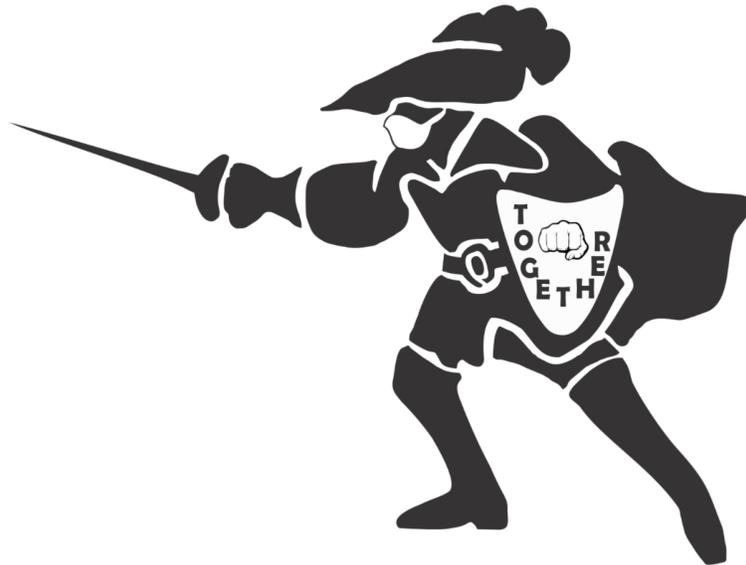


# SAINT BERNADETTE SCHOOL



## Small school...Big Heart... Preparing for the New Normal

[School Website](#)

[Parish Website](#)

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for your responses on the surveys sent by our Task Force earlier this summer. Your input, balanced by the best medical advice and school guidance, has helped us develop our strategies for re-entry.



Linked to this newsletter is our COVID-19 Handbook, which is an addendum to our standard handbook. A signed acknowledgement form (handbook) AND a signed acknowledgment of RISKS form (COVID-19) need to be in our main office **by August 17th**. We are asking you to read our standard handbook and the COVID-19 addendum thoroughly before signing. The COVID-19 handbook includes our daily procedures, plans for mitigating the spread, and information about the possibility of remote learning.

I will host a live Zoom meeting after August 17 (TBD). If you have questions **after** reading the handbook and the addendum, please email me, or ask them in the chat room during the Zoom meeting. We have tried very hard to address the questions that parents asked in our surveys, and have tried to anticipate your concerns, so please read everything before asking.

If you have been following the governor's broadcasts, you know that Governor DeWine is now promoting masks for all children, K-12, in schools. Our position is

masks are the best deterrent, and we will work with our students to help them tolerate using a mask in these first few weeks of school.

### **Where should you get a mask?**

- 1) There are dozens of options online, even for children's sizes.
- 2) Make your own. [Free patterns for DIY masks](#)
- 3) Clermont County Emergency Management Agency has secured 100 plain white cloth face masks for us. These are adult sized. If you want one of these for your child, email me. We also have some face shields from CCEMA.
- 4) The governor is making children's masks available to schools through the counties. If we are awarded some of those, I will post that.
- 5) In a pinch, we will have disposable masks for children and adults in our main office, but this is only for the occasionally forgotten face covering.
- 6) Boosters is researching the purchase of masks that will have our Saber logo (masked up!); they are also considering one-size-fits-most gaiters. Our current thinking is to offer those to you at cost. I do not have a final cost yet, but it will likely be \$5-10.

PLEASE help your child practice wearing a face mask. I recently saw a video where a little boy (age 5) is practicing with his face mask. His mother can be heard coaching him, "Mask on!" and then, "Mask off!" and his mask hangs from a lanyard, so that it doesn't fall on the floor, or get scooped up and worn by someone else. He is very good at this, and seems proud, calm and confident because of this rehearsal. This is what we want for all our students! Proud, calm and confident.

I recommend families begin to purchase face coverings now. We may have freebies to offer you in the coming weeks, but there's no substitute for preparing your child **now** for a "new normal" in a positive and empowering way. I'm really counting on our parents to help us with this effort. No one wants our students to be more anxious than they may already be for the fall.

In keeping with our desire to help children feel normal, we have decided against using desk shields to further isolate our children. Our decision is based on the need for good air-flow in the classroom and the increased expectation for children to use face coverings. If we receive guidance to the contrary, we will re-visit this idea.

We also would appreciate extra volunteers for nursing support. Please let me know if you can help.

Concerned about your child's return to school, or the use of a mask? [Check out this bulletin from Children's Hospital.](#)

I'll continue to have more details about the first days of school in the coming days and weeks. For now, see the box titled, "Get Ready...Get Set!" below.

Please read all information that we send you. In the meantime, be well, and stay well.

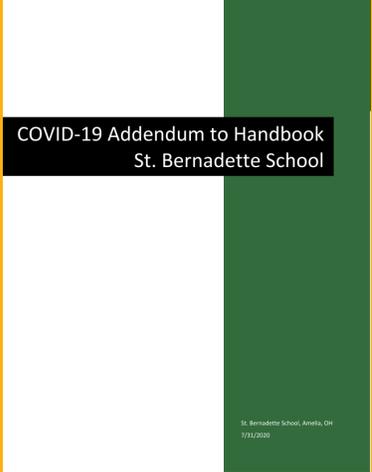
*Please continue to communicate whenever you have a question or concern. If you need to contact me privately, leave your name in a text message to my cell: 513-226-3301, or email me with a time and number to call you. The names of the people serving on the Task Force and their emails are in the green box, below. You are welcome to contact us with your concerns or thoughts.*

In Christ,

~Mrs. Ingram

**Handbook Addendum (click on image)**

**All families will need to read TWO documents:**



COVID-19 Addendum to Handbook  
St. Bernadette School

- 1) [Our Parent-Student Handbook](#) (same as 2019-2020)  
and  
2) The [COVID-19 Addendum](#) (click left image)

**Signed acknowledgements for both documents  
(provided in the addendum) are needed in the main  
office by August 17.**

## A NOTE FROM OUR NURSE

Nurse Diane asks that families take care of the following over the summer:

**KINDERGARTEN:** Make sure all immunizations are up-to-date before school starts. Remember to submit a current immunization record from the pediatrician.

**RISING 7TH GRADERS:** Parents need to submit proof of meningococcal and Tdap vaccination from your physician if you have not yet done so.

## Get Ready...Get Set!

**August 17:** Open House, by appointment, for Kindergarten families. Watch email for a Sign-Up Genius

**August 17:** "Meet the Teacher" videos will be launched to families for a virtual experience. Training videos for parents regarding online materials/processes will also be launched this week, or the following week.

**August 24:** Parents and students: In-Person time in classrooms/Open House for grades 1-8 by appointment (via Sign-Up Genius) from 5-8 p.m. Also available that evening:

- Used uniform drop off (in sealed bag, with your name on it)
- Used uniform sales
- Pick-Up pre-ordered School Kits in classrooms. (Email [Angie Robey](#) for alternative arrangements.)

**August 26:** Half-Day for some students. Lists are still in development.

**August 27:** Half-Day for the rest of the students. Lists are still in development.

**August 28:** All students stay home for online experience. This is a distance learning dry-run, to trouble-shoot any issues and practice the use of materials.

**August 31- September 4:** Full week of school, all day. NO KALDI'S LUNCHES will be served until Tuesday, September 8. Kaldi's information will be sent separately.

## COVID TASK FORCE for RE-ENTRY to SCHOOL

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