

# SAINT BERNADETTE SCHOOL



**Small school...still from a distance.**

**School  
Website**

**Parish  
Website**

*Dear Parents and Guardians,*

*The posters pictured above were done by Mr. Hoffmann and Mr. Reardon in preparation for our end-of-the-year motorcade. It seems long ago to me now, but it's not even been one month!*



***This week's newsletter is being sent to families enrolled this past year as well as families new to us for 2020-2021. June is a time of transition in our school population, and since our COVID Task Force is ready to launch surveys, it's best to get as many opinions as possible.***

*Now it is time for your input.*

***Our survey will take you 10-15 minutes to complete and we need your thoughts before our committee can go any further. Please complete one survey per household, even if you are transferring to a different school, and please complete it by Monday, June 22.***

***Link: [St. Bernadette Parent Survey for Re-Entry during Pandemic](#)***

***A second survey will be sent next week. It will focus on your***

*experience this past spring with distance learning, and will seek information about technology support so that we can make improvements going forward.*

*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*

## **A WORD ABOUT TUITION**

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

## COVID TASK FORCE for RE-ENTRY to SCHOOL

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