



Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. - Philippians 4:6

January 2, 2021

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

Happy New Year! I hope this note finds everyone doing well and that you all had a blessed Christmas.

Thank you for entrusting us with your children during this unique time. As you know, we have been following the Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS) guidelines and benchmarks for schools and working closely with the Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH). Attached is a letter from the MCDPH which supports our school's decision to continue to offer hybrid instruction as planned beginning January 11th. As our county is in the substantial transmission category, it is important that we provide each family a choice regarding hybrid instruction, so that you can individually make the decision that best works for your family.

In order for us to plan and provide the best education possible, we need your help. **ALL families must be complete the Learning Plan Commitment Form by Tuesday January 5th at 8am (CLICK HERE).** **We ask that you respect the Tuesday January 5th by 8am deadline** in order to assist us in planning and to avoid the additional work created by having to follow up individually with families who do not respond on time.

In order for us to continue to have on campus learning, we all must do our part. Listed below are guidelines on how we can all work together for the greater good so we can be together on campus.

- If you have traveled by air (domestic or international) after December 31st, you will continue distance learning until 10 full days after your flight. Please reach out to the nurses to let them know and they will help you with your return to campus date.
- If you have any symptoms (fever, headache, cough, sore throat etc), have a known exposure, or if anyone in your family has a covid-19 test pending due to symptoms, you must stay off-campus.



- Continue to communicate with the nurses through email about symptoms, exposures, or positive test results. It is important that we stay in constant communication. We are always here as a resource for you.
- Research has shown that a source of a significant number of positive cases is household gatherings (small and large) with non-household members. If you are having a household gathering we recommend that you do it outside, wear masks, and socially distance. It is important to limit physical contact and watch diligently for symptoms.
- We recommend that you continue to take all precautions if you choose to be out in the community. Risk mitigation strategies include: masks, social distancing, hygiene practices, etc. Of course, being as safe and cautious as possible is our recommendation.

As always, we continue to monitor the situation and consult with MCDPH. During this pandemic, we know that the one constant has been change. In the event that we experience a school-related outbreak, or do not have enough staffing, MCDPH would support transitioning back to a virtual learning environment. Additionally, we will continue to update the homepage of gradelink with up to date information about positive cases in the SFX community. Gradelink was just updated yesterday to reflect the last two weeks of reported cases.

Regardless of whether a family has opted for on-campus or distance learning, every student is valued the same whether their presence in our classrooms and school is in person or virtual. Every student at our school is part of our greater pack and we will ensure that all students feel loved, supported, valued, and are receiving an excellent Jesuit education. Your child is a part of the SFX community and classroom community as much as possible, even though they are not physically present in the classroom. We are committed to providing every child a spiritual and academic Jesuit education.

I pray you all have a blessed start to 2021 and we look forward to starting the second half of our school year in a very positive and hopeful way!

God Bless,

Ryan Watson

