



The Eagle Connection

All-School Newsletter
Back-to-School Edition August 21, 2020

Calendar of Events

Mon, 8/24 – Wed, 8/26

Tell the Teacher More Days
(Sign up for a time slot via the link sent by email)

Mon, 8/31

First Day of School K-8

*Remember the new school hours are 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Fri, 9/4

No School

Mon, 9/7

No School

Tues, 9/8

First Day of School PK2 & PK5

*Remember the new school hours are 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Wed, 9/9

First Day of School PK3

*Remember the new school hours are 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

New School and ESP Hours:

The new PERMANENT school day hours will be

8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

School doors will open at 7:00 a.m.

The new TEMPORARY ESP hours (for the 2020-21 school year) will be 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Community and Connection

A message from Mrs. Dolan, Administrator

Dear Parents,

As children return to school, we are working hard to ensure that their transition back to in-person learning is as supported as possible! The faculty met together for several days this week to share in God's word, prepare for teaching, understand our COVID Preparedness Plan, discuss operational changes, and engage in professional development around solid social-emotional support of our students. As part of this focus on the whole child, we are centrally adopting a curriculum fundamental used in Denmark called *Klassens tid*:

In Danish schools an hour a week is dedicated to the 'Klassens tid', an empathy lesson for students aged 6 to 16 years. It is a fundamental part of the Danish curriculum. The hour of empathy is as important as the time spent, for example, on English or mathematics. During the Klassens tid students discuss their problems, either related to school or not, and the whole class, together with the teacher, tries to find a solution based on real listening and understanding. If there are no problems to discuss, children are simply spent the time together relaxing and enjoying hygge, a word (and also a verb and an adjective), which cannot be translated literally, since it is a phenomenon closely related to Danish culture. Hygge could be defined as "intentionally created intimacy". In a country where it gets dark very early in the year, it rains, it's gray, hygge means bringing light, warmth and friendship, creating a shared, welcoming and intimate atmosphere. It is a fundamental concept for the Danish sense of well-being (<http://thedanishway.com/overlooking-the-fundamentals-of-the-classroom-experience/>)

In a year where protocols determine more distancing in our school, we are looking for ways to keep our children connected. There are many other means by which we will accomplish this, too! We know that we are bound together by the love from and for our Savior, and we want this to be a steady facet of our school culture. While many of our teachers have already been doing something like this in their classrooms, we will now invest in this effort school-wide on a weekly basis. Your children are part of our school community and God's family, and we take seriously our role in growing their understanding of what this means in their lives!

In joyful service,
Gretchen Dolan

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures

Parents or guardians will drop off and pick up students outside the school building.

Drop-Off Procedures

For arrival prior to 7:30:

- Parents will need to park their car in the lot (not along the sidewalk) and walk their students to the main door where students' temperatures will be checked before entering; then parents may return to their vehicle.
- Students will be distanced in the lobby until given permission to go to their classrooms at 7:30.



For arrival between 7:30-8:00:

- Parents may remain in their cars for drop-off at the curb. Students need to be unbuckled with backpacks on as the car pulls to the curb. Traffic directors will not have time to visit.



- Students with last names beginning with **A-G** will pull to the end of the sidewalk and use the entrance closest to 101.

**Families with Last Name
A – G**



- The main double door entrance will operate as two entrances, with each set of doors considered its own entrance. Students with last names beginning with **H-L** will enter the left set of doors (when facing the building). Students with last names beginning with **M-Z** will enter the right set of doors (when facing the building). Doors will be labeled alphabetically.

**Families with Last Name
H – L**



- Students will go immediately to their classrooms upon entering the building

**Families with Last Name
M – Z**



- Masks must be worn in grades K-8th to enter the school building



Door monitors will perform health screenings before your child will be admitted. These screenings will include:

- Temperature Check (less than 100 degrees)
- Visual check for symptoms like lethargy, coughing
- Parents **should not leave** the drop-off line until their child has been screened and admitted into the building.


PreK and Kindergarten families can turn to page 5 to see directions for their special procedure the first two days of school

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures cont.

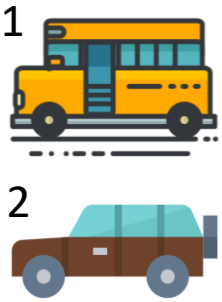
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Pick-Up Procedures

- The afternoon dismissal pattern inside of the building will remain unchanged other than that each student group will be spaced throughout the transition to exit the building.
- Until winter weather prohibits safe use of the parking lot, **we will use the same procedure for picking up students that we implement on non-Osseo bus days.**
- Students boarding the St. John's bus will use a different exit door than car line students.
- Students being picked up in the car line will line up by grade and parents will pull forward as directed. Parents will stay in the car during pick-up. If your child needs help buckling, please drive through the line and park to help them.

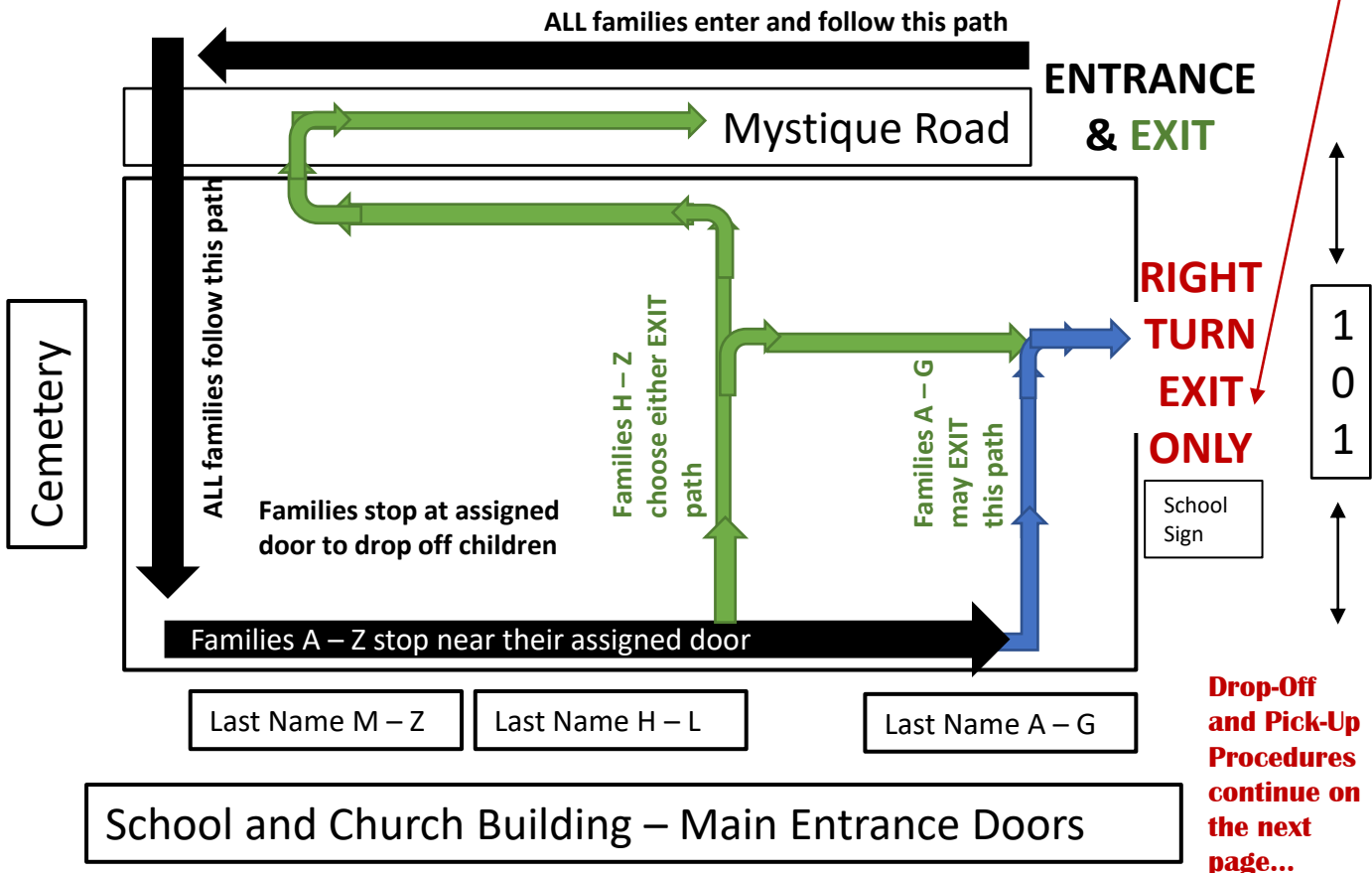


We will request that masks are worn during pick-up in the event that students must be grouped together more closely to ensure parking lot safety.

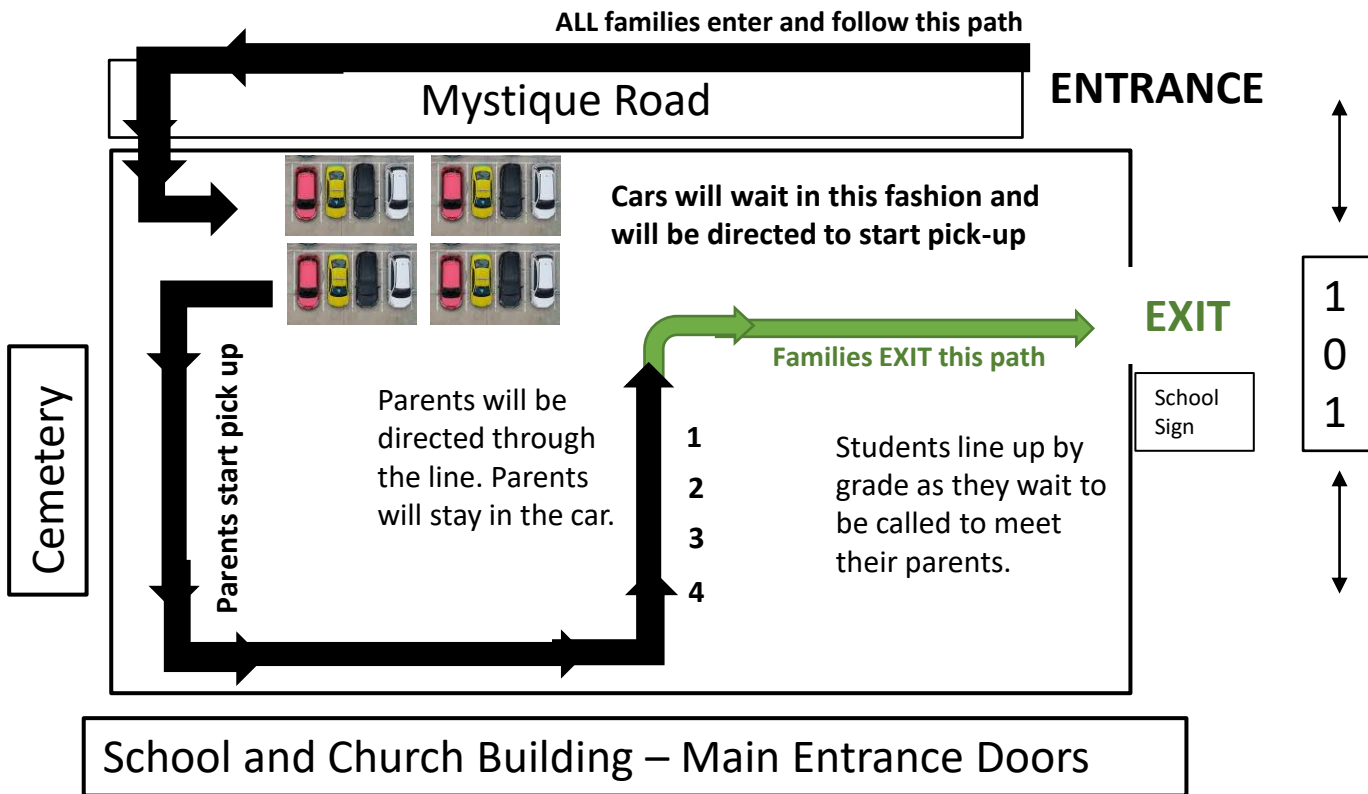


Note: If you use this right turn only lane, but need to turn around, use St. John's overflow parking lot across the street to turn around and turn left

Parking Lot Map For Drop-Off

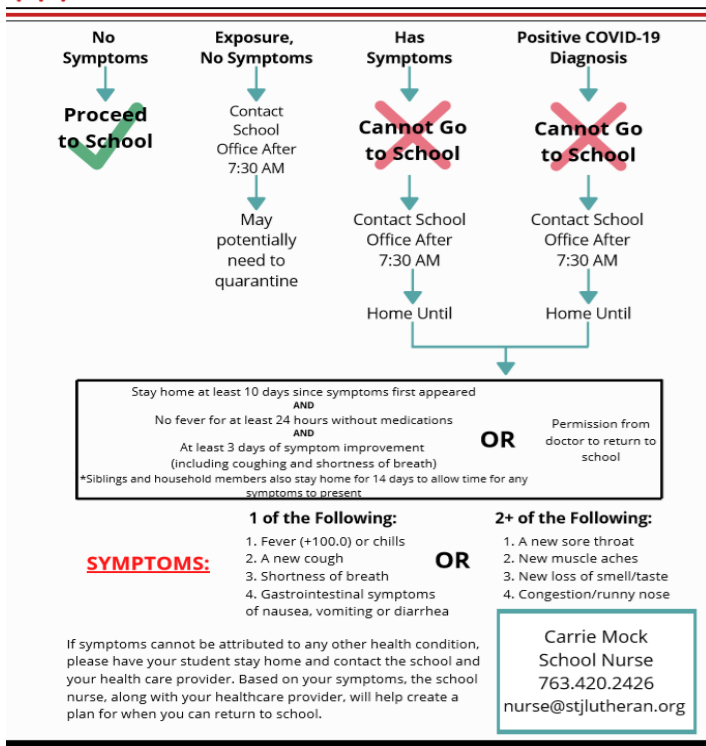


Parking Lot Map For Pick-Up



St. John's COVID Screening Protocol

COVID-19 HEALTH SCREENING FLOW CHART



St. John's COVID-19 Return to Campus Plan
&
St. John's COVID-19 Preparedness Plan
can be found under Resources at www.stjlutheranschool.org.



Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures continue on the next page...

Special Drop-Off Procedures for the FIRST TWO DAYS OF SCHOOL ONLY for Kindergarten and PreK

Special Procedure for Kindergarten:
August 31 & September 1

Special Procedure for PreK:
September 8, September 9
September 11 (3 day students only)

After 7:30 a.m. on the first two days of school, one parent each day is invited to bring their child into the school building through their assigned door (see the assigned doors on the previous pages) and wait in the entry way area. Help your child become familiar with the door they will use to enter the school building so they will be comfortable doing this independently on a regular basis.

This will be a special time to help your child transition to being at school. Families have two days to use this special procedure so each parent can have a special morning with their child at the beginning of their school career.

Families will be socially distanced in the entry way of their assigned door. The parent will not be able to walk to the classroom with their child as there is not enough room to socially distance families outside of the classroom. A teacher aide will meet your child in the lobby and bring them to the classroom. Students will be brought back to the classroom in a staggered manner to allow for social distancing.

This special procedure will not be available before 7:30 a.m.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Please follow these directions for the procedure on the first two days:

- The parent and child need to enter the school through their assigned school door (see the previous page for the assigned door by last name)
- Families with last name A – G will enter through the door closest to highway 101. They will be asked to wait in the area by the stairwell. There will be a marker on the ground to show where the parent can wait with their child for the teacher aide.
- Families with last name H – L and M – Z will enter the school building through the main entrance doors. The parent and child will wait in the lobby for the teacher aide.
- Please remember to stay socially distanced in the lobby from other families and students. Thank you!



REMINDER: This special procedure will only be for the first TWO days of school to help the young students transition to school

Highlights of St. John's COVID-19 Preparedness Plan

Masks

- Students (Kindergarten – 8th grade) need to bring two clean face masks daily, per St. John's Supply List
- St. John's will supply one cloth face mask per student (as given by MDE). **Delivery not guaranteed by first day of school.**
- Additional/extra masks will be available for students who need a new mask during the day. If a student requires more than the 3 allotted paper masks, it will be recommended that a \$1 donation per mask be provided to offset the cost of supplying them.

Chromebooks

- Students will be expected to take their Chromebooks home each afternoon and bring them back to school each morning. **Chromebooks need to be charged every night at home.**

Water Bottles

- Students will bring their own water bottles from home.
- Water bottles must be labeled with students' names.
- Water bottles should be taken home daily and washed.

Lunch and Treats

- Students bringing a lunch from home must have it with them when they arrive at school.
- Students without a bag lunch at arrival will be served a school-prepared hot lunch.
- Lunches may not be brought to school after student arrival.
- Parents or other visitors will not be able to join a student for lunch.
- Students will not bring treats (homemade or store-bought) to be shared with classmates.

Leaving Early

- Students should only leave early when absolutely necessary and should make arrangements for leaving early with advance notice.
- Parents should pull up to the front entrance and call the school office. Students will be checked out and walked to the front door to meet you. Parents should not plan to enter the building.

Sick Student

- The student's parent/guardian are required to pick up the student **as soon as possible within 60 minutes of being notified.**

Sports

- St. John's has opted to refrain from fall sports conference participation.
- Winter sports participation will be evaluated based on future guidance.
- St. John's may consider offering an intramural program for grades 5-8 in lieu of conference sports participation.

Library

- Library plans are still being determined. Library access is suspended until further notice

Parents/guardians and visitors are not permitted to enter the school building except under prearranged circumstances.

"Tell the Teacher More"

"Tell the Teacher More" Days will be held **August 24th – 26th**. If you have not signed up for a meeting time yet, please do so as soon as possible.

These individual meetings are **mandatory** for all families. These meetings are an important connection point between parents and teachers before school starts. St. John's values the partnership between parents and teachers as a fundamental part of a child's success in school.

Meetings will be offered virtually for families with students in grades 1-8.

For PreK and Kindergarten families, an in-person meeting will be offered to lovingly accommodate our youngest learners' transition into school. Parents may request a virtual option if they prefer.



Wearing Masks at St. John's

This is a friendly reminder that according to the Executive Order 20-81 students in Kindergarten – 8th grade **must wear masks during the school day at St. John's**. Those seeking exemptions from wearing a mask need a doctor's note, per the Preparedness Plan, and will need to provide their child with their own face shield to wear as an alternative during the day.

Please help your child become comfortable with masks now so they are ready for the first day of school. **They will have to wear their mask during drop-off, throughout the school day, and during after school pick-up via car or bus.** Practice wearing masks every day before school starts so your child will be ready. We suggest that the first day of school should not be the first time your child wears a mask. Thank you for your cooperation!

Prior to the meeting: Complete the yellow form in your back-to-school mailing. This form will be given to your child's teacher as a reference throughout the school year. You may use it as a guide during your meeting and give it to your child's teacher after the meeting.

You received classroom information during your time slot at Back to School Days, so you may peruse that prior to your scheduled time and jot down any questions to ask during your meeting.

At the "Tell the Teacher More Day" meeting: Your child's teacher will send you a link for the virtual meeting. A timer will be set for 20 minutes to honor everyone's time, so please don't be late to joining the virtual meeting!

For PreK and Kindergarten, one parent and the student will attend the in-person meeting. These meetings will be 30 minutes long in your child's classroom.



Please ensure that the masks your child wears at school are appropriate. Be mindful of St. John's dress code as you pick out masks for your child as masks are a part of your child's dress.

Plain or patterned masks are appropriate at St. John's.

The following are inappropriate mask designs at St. John's:

- Political statements
- Advertising alcohol, cigarettes, gambling
- Depicting sexual innuendos
- Bands/music groups
- Offensive language and put-downs
- Inappropriate pictures including demonic symbols or violence, skulls, crossbones, or skeletons