



January 7, 2021

Dear Families,

It seems so comforting to type in that 2021 date. Let's pray that the relief we all need is right around the corner!

- First off, the most important... **TOMORROW, Friday, January 8, is hereby designated a Seahawks Blue Friday!** For any students and staff here in the building – and of course – for you at home – wear your best Seahawks green and blue. No uniforms allowed on Friday! If you aren't a Seahawk fan, free dress is fine, but no LA Rams will be allowed!!! (Kidding. Kind of.)
- **Our number one task now after the break is to work our way back to having all our students in campus.** It has been way too long.

The schedule we sent out before the break and included below is still in play barring any unforeseen surge in cases or new regulations. In December, the metrics for determining when we can return were revised and the infection thresholds and hospital counts were given a bit more flexibility. Since that time, our area case counts have stabilized below those new metrics. As long as that holds, we'll continue as planned:

Week Beginning	On Campus	Remote Instruction
January 4	PK and K	Grades 1-8
January 11	PK, K and 1	Grades 2-8
January 19*	PK, K, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5	Grades 6-8
January 25	PK – 8	All Grades on campus

* Monday, January 18 is the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

Special Note: In order to re-set their classrooms to welcome their students back to campus on Tuesday, January 19, **the teachers of Grades 2-5 will not offer online instruction on Friday, January 15.** Grades 6-8 will continue with their normal schedule.

With the hiring of Mr. Wilbanks in the Middle School and a slight adjustment to Mr. Kevin's disinfecting schedule, we'll be able to continue with a full M-F calendar with school beginning at 8:30am and dismissing at 3:00pm.

Continuing down this path, of course, means that **each of us has to do everything possible to steer clear of the virus and follow protocol.** Masks, handwashing and distancing will be the norm here, but should also be the rule of thumb for family outings as well. If anyone in the family has a positive contact, alert our office and stay home. Should a child become ill with Covid symptoms at school, they will be monitored under quarantine in our isolation room and you will be alerted to pick them up immediately. And until we can all gain access to the vaccine, remember that the

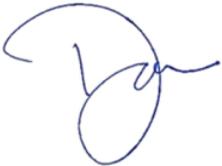
State has issued a **strong advisory regarding non-essential travel**. Should your family leave the area, the protocol we will follow is to require a quarantine from classes for a 14-day period upon your return OR two-days quarantine **after** proof of a negative Covid test taken five days **after** your return (a total of seven days).

Once a grade level returns to on-site instruction, we have VERY few options for direct instruction of a student whose family chooses to remain home. Please stay in touch with your child's teacher with your intention as those return dates near.

Until we are fully back up and can begin to be less restrictive with seating and distancing, **we are limiting any new enrollment for the remainder of this year to Grades PK and Kindergarten only**. We simply don't have the space or staff at this time to add new students in the other grades.

- **Please keep Fr. Scott and his extended family in your prayers.** Over the break, his mother passed away, somewhat unexpectedly. For any of us, losing a parent is a major life challenge, but even more so at this time of year for someone in such an important presiding role who is counted upon by the entire community. May a calming peace be found in remembering all that was good and also that she is now one more advocate for us in a heavenly place.
- **Finally, we are all deeply appreciative of your kind thoughts, prayers and gifts before the break.** If anyone was missed with a personal thank you, please know every touch was appreciated. We are all here because this place is special to us. Being thought of beyond that is an unexpected bonus!

We're keeping our eyes on the prize! This rain WILL stop, the students WILL get back on campus, and someone WILL win on Saturday. Let's all hope on the right outcomes!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be the name 'Dan' written in a cursive, stylized font.

Dan