



A Nationally Recognized School of Excellence

October 1, 2020

Dear Bishop Stang Families:

I hope this letter finds you well! The following is an important update regarding the next phase of our school's reopening efforts.

On Monday, October 5, Bishop Stang will continue with the Hybrid Learning Model through Thanksgiving and re-assess for November 30 and beyond.

This decision was reached on the basis of extensive discernment involving stakeholder survey feedback, extensive dialogue with faculty and staff and local COVID-19 data. As of September 30, the [Weekly COVID-19 Public Health Report](#) indicates our weighted average among our MA cities and towns is 5.8, up from 4.7 last week.

Our entire community, especially our students, has been incredibly cooperative in making our reopening efforts successful thus far. While constant vigilance is required, we have implemented the protocols well and are prepared to master the Hybrid Learning Model. The surveys gave the school high marks for our reopening efforts and hybrid learning, but also identified several key areas of improvement that we will integrate into our approach. Below is an outline of our adjustments as we take our next steps.

Weekly & Daily Schedule

- See the link to our [2020-21 Master Schedule](#) updated through Thanksgiving.
- The A-L and M-Z cohorts will each report to school for an equal number of days.
- Professional Development has also been scheduled for teachers to collaborate on mastering the hybrid learning model.
- The daily schedule has been slightly modified and posted here.

Academics

- Teachers are working tirelessly to make the Hybrid Learning Model work effectively, ensure excellence, and maintain equity.
- Technology staff and teachers are working diligently to improve audio quality in the classrooms and to ensure the engagement of remote students at all times. Should issues persist, please email me directly with the specifics.
- Some textbooks continue to be on backorder stemming from delays in production related to COVID-19. Teachers will make the necessary accommodations so that this does not interfere with student learning.

Students Reporting to School Every Day

- Only students with a documented medical issue, learning difference, or serious extenuating circumstances will be allowed to attend school every day. This is an important matter of equity and fairness.
- The parents of students currently reporting to school every day will be informed immediately regarding whether their request meets the above criteria.

Master Calendar Adjustments

- **Peer Mentoring** sessions for Freshman will take place on Monday, 10/5 and Tuesday, 10/6 during FLEX for in-person and remote students.
- **Homecoming Week** is postponed to the spring semester - date TBA
- **All School Mass** (Live Streamed from our Chapel) - Tuesday, October 13 at 10:00 am.
- **Virtual National Honor Society Induction** - October 7 at 6:30 pm
- **Virtual 2019-20 Underclass Awards** - October 14 at 6:30 pm
- The **Fall Play** scheduled for November 13-14 will be refashioned as a radio production of *It's a Wonderful Life* and broadcast on December 23.
- **Campus Ministry** will provide opportunities for spiritual growth and the Freshman Retreat will take place on November 21 in a modified format.

Co-Curricular & Opportunities

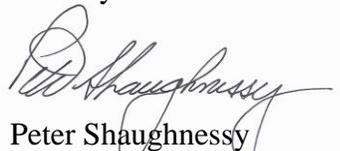
- Co-Curricular Activities - Co-Curricular sign-ups will be sent to students tomorrow. Students will be contacted by the moderator of the club or organization in which they are interested.
- Peer Mentoring sessions for freshmen and transfer students will commence next week to help freshmen get to make social connections.

Athletics

- Athletics has launched very successfully thus far! Coach Golden will share our COVID-19 spectator policy with you tomorrow. Only 1 spectator per student-athlete will be allowed and pre-registration is required.
- Please note that we are in regular communication with all Catholic Central League schools regarding COVID-19 cases and will reschedule athletic events as warranted.
- If a parent or student-athlete is ever uncomfortable attending an athletic event due to COVID-19, opting out will be allowed without penalty.

In closing, we truly respect the many and varied views expressed that have helped us to chart our course. Please know that it is our goal to adopt an in-person learning model as soon as it is safe to do so. For now, we will work diligently to master the Hybrid Learning Model and ensure an educational environment that is worthy of our students and our tradition of excellence.

Thank you and God Bless!



Peter Shaughnessy
President/Principal