



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
ARLINGTON

Office of Catholic Schools

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Dear Parents,

As the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year draws closer, our schools continue to work diligently to prepare for the return of students, whether it be for full-time in-person learning, or via hybrid models that include in-person and eLearning components. I am extremely proud of and grateful for the leadership of our principals and the dedication to students demonstrated by our professional educators. The hours and hours of planning that have gone into the development of learning models that place safety at the forefront, but also allow for in-person learning that is so essential to the social, emotional, and spiritual development of our Catholic school students, has been remarkable.

Notwithstanding the significant focus on COVID-19 mitigation strategies in our schools, it is not possible to provide an absolute guarantee that no COVID-19 related risk exists. Accordingly, the attached liability waiver is your acknowledgment that agreeing to your child's return to in-person instruction comes with the risks associated with potential exposure to the COVID-19 virus. The language of this waiver is very similar to others you may have signed this summer related to your child's participation in camp or other summer recreation activities.

You will note as well that your signature on the waiver represents your agreement to conduct daily health screenings using the checklist provided in the waiver. Mitigation efforts for schools rely importantly on the commitment of parents and guardians to this prudent daily action. Please know that all personnel who work in our schools are bound by the obligation to conduct the same screening daily.

I am very mindful of how challenging the recent months have been for parents and educators alike. As we move forward into the school year with the same sense of community that has animated Catholic education in this country for more than 150 years, I thank you for being part of your school community here in the Diocese of Arlington and for your particular commitment to school safety in the coming year.

Sincerely in Christ,

Joseph E. Vorbach III, PhD, MEd
Superintendent of Schools