



# CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL

JESUIT PREPARATION *for* COLLEGE ... FOR LIFE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 21, 2020

Dear Canisius High School Parents and Guardians,

Greetings and peace. We pray that you and your family are well and enjoying these cool days of late summer as we move into early autumn.

It has been about a month since we last wrote to you. Since then, we have welcomed the freshmen and transfer students, seen student orientations come and go, begun classes, and held four Masses of the Holy Spirit (one for each class) praying God will fill our hearts, homes and hallways with God's own Spirit as we begin anew.

Your sons, our students, have been terrific. They have been attentive, patient and compliant with what is being asked of them with regard to the health and safety protocols that have been put in place. As we mentioned to the students during their orientations, it had been five and one-half months since we saw one another. This was a long time to be away from CHS, their friends and teachers. We would dare say that, to a man (clearly true of the upperclassmen), the students were excited and very happy to be back at CHS. This is perhaps a rare moment – we are talking about young men, after all. None of them wishes to return to remote learning and this truth, as well as their typically good natured spirit, has been the impetus for working together to keep CHS healthy.

Mr. Thomas Coppola, Dean of Students, sent you a letter last Friday, reminding you to call the Dean's Office if your son will be absent. It is especially important that you do this in a timely fashion and provide the required information regarding your son's absence. You are our first line of defense regarding school health and well-being. If you have questions, please contact the Dean's Office or School Nurse, Mrs. Denise Keating, R.N., at 200-0237 for assistance.

When we have a member of our school community test positive for the virus (or notified that the person has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive) we expect the person to adhere to the protocols set forth by the Department of Health (DOH). Once the person has completed the protocols established by the DOH, the person may return to our community. While many would like to know the "who, how, when" and perhaps other details, we will continue to be in regular contact with our school's liaison at the DOH and to adhere to the guidance of the DOH in this regard. The DOH advises that the school not engage in contact tracing or communication with our constituencies when/if we have a positive case. This is the role of the DOH, with whom we collaborate and cooperate fully.

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We are prepared to move to hybrid or remote learning should the need arise. Such a decision will be reached in consultation with the DOH or if mandated by the state or county.

We are doing everything we can to provide a safe and healthy environment for your sons. We have already written to you about the protocols we put in place and we will not repeat them here. However, we wish to assure you that we have been following our health and safety protocols closely and ask you to reinforce with your son the need to practice safe/healthy behavior at all times: maintain distance, wear a mask, frequent hand washing and so on.

We feel blessed. We work in a terrific school with an exceptional faculty and staff. We have wonderful students to teach, form, and care for each day. Let us always be grateful for our blessings.

With prayerful best wishes for you,



Fr. David Ciancimino, S.J.  
President



Ms. Andrea Tyrpak-Endres  
Principal