By the Numbers:

A Return to Campus Life

Summer is typically a time when the Taft campus becomes a construction zone: Dormitories and faculty homes are renovated, classrooms are updated and upgraded, and a host of facelifts happen everywhere, indoors and out. This year, our summer work took on a new and critical focus: preparing for the safe return of our students, while also advancing our technologies to best meet the needs of students who are continuing their studies remotely. From signs and sanitizer to plexiglass, power strips, and portable whiteboards, this was a summer like no other.



From the moment students, faculty, staff, and families arrived on campus, there were signs. Signs with reminders about how to wear a mask, why to wear a mask, how to wash hands properly, and why social distancing is critical to school safety. There were directional signs outdoors, floor stickers 6 feet apart indoors, and arrows and blue tape guiding people through one-way corridors, through the servery, and around the athletic center. In all, there are

900
instructional and informational new signs on campus

216
floor stickers

40
signs near the campus gates and on school grounds





The incomparable teams from the Dean of Faculty, Dean of Academic Affairs, and Information Technology offices asked, "What will our faculty need to safely and effectively deliver the high-caliber academics—in person *and online*—that lie at the heart of a Taft education?" The answers:

50
portable whiteboards

130
phone tripods

200
iPad stands

200
portable MoFi batteries

200
bottles of hand sanitizer

70
classroom microphones, each with three different adaptor cables and extension cords

600
dry-erase markers

200
erasers

150
squid power strips—Miles (and miles) of adapter cords for Apple and Android products



Construction or not, Taft's facilities team remained busy, working with outside engineering and HVAC vendors in developing and responding to equipment and service evaluations, and installing whatever it takes to keep campus safe, including

812 upgraded air filters

4 COVID testing booths

15 air handler UV lights

90 new hand sanitizer dispensers for a total of 125 across campus

960 square feet of plexiglass

512 quarts of disinfectant

1,500 face masks

11,000 pairs of gloves

125 touchless paper towel dispensers

360 yards of blue tape

1 large heated tent (40 feet by 100 feet) with pool tables, ping-pong tables, and basketball.





If all that sounds like a lot, chew on this: This fall semester, the professional food service team from Aramark will serve

1,800 grab-and-go meals each day

And to help Taft students remain social and conduct outdoor classes at a safe distance, Taft purchased

64 Adirondack chairs

4 tents

80 outdoor dining chairs

20 outdoor dining tables

20 umbrellas and bases

