



CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL

JESUIT PREPARATION *for* COLLEGE...FOR LIFE

December 8, 2020

Dear Canisius High School Parents and Guardians,

We pray that you and your family are well. Thank you for your continued support and care. It's hard to imagine that we are already in the holiday season and the halfway point in the school year is right around the corner. We write to update you on important information.

Return to campus: We still intend to return to on-campus learning on January 4. All members of our school community will continue to complete a daily health screening questionnaire, to have their temperatures taken upon entering the building, and to wear face masks or other acceptable face coverings properly at school. We will no longer require desk shields in classrooms. Instead, the Beecher wing classrooms are being equipped with air purification units. As you may recall, air purification systems that use germicidal UV light rays as a method of destroying germs, viruses, and bacteria have already been installed on our heating, ventilation, and air conditioning units in other parts of the campus.

Cafeteria: Seating has been configured with shields that safely allow four students per table. The shields will be sanitized between each meal service.

COVID-19 testing: The school has received its Limited Service Laboratory (LSL) Registration from the NYS Department of Health (DOH) and will begin performing COVID-19 screening when on-campus learning resumes on January 4. The testing kits from the DOH have arrived.

The NYS DOH and Erie County DOH require schools to test 20% of their in-school population each month. As a result, we will randomly test approximately 35-40 people each week from among our students, faculty, and staff. This amounts to about 7-10 people daily depending on the number of days in a given school week.

Testing will be performed by Mrs. Denise Keating, R.N. (our school nurse) and designated school personnel. The test results will be registered in the NYS COVID data base. The test, a shallow nasal swab, tickles at most, and is not nearly as uncomfortable as the more invasive PCR test can be. A brief video of the testing procedure may be found [here](#).

The test result appears in about 15 minutes time. If your son is tested and he tests positive, you will be notified by the school. If your son is tested and you do not hear from us, you may presume your son tested negative for the virus.

Consent: If you have not completed the consent form to have your son tested (or not) for COVID-19, please complete the form found by clicking [here](#). We urge you to consider this a relatively simple contribution to our school's efforts to remain open.

E-Learning: We hope the transition to e-learning has been smooth given the experience of the faculty and students with our 1:1 iPad program and our various learning platforms. If your son is experiencing difficulties or if you have questions, please contact Mrs. Jeanne Whittington, assistant principal, at whittington@canisiushigh.org.

January Exams: January 19-22 will be regular school days. The mid-year exams scheduled for those days have been cancelled. The second quarter will end on January 22. First semester grades will be calculated as an average of the first and second quarter grades. Please encourage your son to complete all of his assignments in a timely fashion. Doing so will help your son to know greater success in his classes.

Be assured of our prayerful best wishes for you and your family. May you have a joyous Christmas and abundant blessings in the year to come.



Fr. David Ciancimino, S.J.
President



Ms. Andrea Tyrpak-Endres
Principal