

Dear St. Celestine School Families,

Thank you for your communications with me as we move to the start of the 2020/21 school year. I appreciate your patience, grace and communication as we navigate the year ahead. We are truly a team and I thank God for you daily.

As a parent myself, I know that this is a stressful time for families. I am hopeful that many of the school communications have answered questions. I am including a few resources in today's communication, as well.

Some families have asked if they can send plexiglass shields for their children's desks. While the school has acted fully according to the Archdiocesan Plan for re-opening schools, which does not include this, families may send these along with their children.

I worked closely with the teachers to determine what dimension would best and am including a link for a shield that would work nicely according to our desks.

https://www.professionalplastics.com/fab-studentshield?utm_medium=shoppingengine&utm_source=googlebase&utm_campaign=googlebase&dfw_tracker=36203-FAB-STUDENTSHIELD&gclid=Cj0KCQjwjer4BRCZARIsABK4QeV28g_SZrnFKX7-KnPI1-xK26jkdTQZxEp1OCr-pkX7N6P0whit7aAaAupVEALw_wcB

This link shows the suggested size, if parents would like to purchase it. Students will continue to be expected to wear masks in the classroom. The shield does not take the place of the mask.

In terms of managing the stress of the decision making you, as parents, are handling, I mentioned that St. Celestine School has partnered with a Mobile Therapy Center Social Worker to provide a parent session. The session will be Tuesday, August 18 starting at 6:30pm. A registration link will be coming prior to the event.

Parents choosing the St. Celestine School Remote Learning Track instead of the Face-To-Face Track were asked to respond by Monday, August 10 stating that preference. Should that have slipped past your radar, please respond to this link by Thursday, August 13. The school is working diligently to provide options that support families during this stressful time. If you have already responded, we have your information. There is no need to respond again.

The link is:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScJiaLTYOfrXdwYLRWwRZJYWZfK8rWANK7UBWyCdPENyRfrQ/viewform>

Details, which include a schedule, calendar and expectations will be shared in an upcoming email.

There will be an email to families tomorrow including a document that must be signed by families preferring the Face-to-Face Track. The details in this letter that the Archdiocese of Chicago has created includes a formal acknowledgement of responsibilities relative to a physical return to school. The letter is to be included in all paperwork being submitted at the start of the year. I am mentioning this letter now so that it is on your radar and does not get missed.

Please reach out to me with any questions you have or if there is anything I can do to help as we get closer to the start of the year.

Please keep me and all school staff in your prayers. We are praying for you, as well.

Sheila M. Klich
Principal