



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Archbishop Bergan Catholic Schools Announcing Updated Protocol COVID-19 Protocol

Fremont, Neb. – (Sep. 2, 2021) Archbishop Bergan Catholic School today announced changes to their COVID-19 protocols. Bergan Catholic continues to work closely with the Three Rivers Public Health Department. The outlined changes which are slated to begin on Tuesday, September 7 immediately following the Labor Day break are as follows:

1) Social distancing

Lunch: Implement protocols to achieve social distance.

Classroom spacing: Classrooms will be arranged in a fashion that allows for maximum spacing between students with 3 feet or more being the guidance.

Activities: Spectators will continue to be encouraged to sit in locations that allow for the greatest amount of social distancing with others that do not live within their household.

2) Transportation

Students and staff will be required to wear masks while riding on school owned buses.

3) Cleaning

The school and contracted cleaning services will increase the intensity of cleaning services and continue the daily use of electrostatic charged spraying equipment.

Hand sanitizer will be readily available and its use strongly encouraged.

4) Outside visitors

Schools will be closed to outside visitors during the school day - exceptions will be made for volunteers. Outside visitors during the school day are required to wear masks while in the building.

Also released today are the following updated protocols for individuals that would be exempt from being excluded from school due to a close contact with an individual that has tested positive for COVID-19. This information has been provided by Three Rivers Health Department as we continue to work through contact tracing and identifying individuals who need to



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quarantine. Staff and students that are exposed in a non-household exposure are required to self monitor for 14 days. Individuals exposed through an epi-link contact (three or more positive cases in the same cohort) that are fully vaccinated, have had COVID-19 in the past 90 days, or are wearing a mask while in school and engaged in activities will no longer be required to stay home from school as long as they do not have COVID-19 symptoms (loss of taste and smell, sudden onset of persistent cough or shortness of breath) and wear a mask for the 14 days following the exposure.

“We at Bergan Catholic are attempting to become more vigilant about our daily practices and protocols during the month of September. We are doing so in order to provide an assessment to gauge our procedural efforts at the beginning of October. We have been pleased with the number of cases of Covid positive students and staff, but know that it is only a matter of time before we see an outbreak in our school community. These measures will assist us in mitigating any threats to our students while receiving the least restrictive education at the same time. We believe that this will help us to work towards keeping our students and staff as healthy as possible. Currently, masking is still a personal choice, but families need to mentally prepare themselves for the fact that school wide masking is a possibility into the future if positive Covid case numbers see a steep increase. Masking is still strongly recommended and I encourage families to weigh the benefits of masking. I would like to reiterate the expectation that if a person is ill, we ask that they do not attend school classes or activities. For the sake of our students, please have your students stay home if they feel ill and if you as a parent are ill, please do not attend your student’s activities as well. It is going to take everyone being vigilant by giving an effort to continue to do their part to combat this pandemic.” Dan Koenig, Principal

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