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ST. JAMES PARISH SCHOOLS

Inspiring Hope and Purpose

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July 8, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As we approach the start of the 2020 – 2021 school year, we thought it was important to reach out to our families with an update. The administration has been working diligently to ensure that our students are able to safely return to our campuses in August.

Over the last two (2) months, we have worked to develop a plan that makes the safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff a priority, while ensuring that we are able to maintain high academic expectations. Local, state, and federal guidance were the guiding principles as we developed the plan.

On July 14, 2020, the full plan will be presented to the St. James Parish School Board for review and approval and released to the public shortly thereafter. In the meantime, we are providing the following general information for your review.

SJP Options/Models follow state Phase Guidance and are listed below:

SJPS Model 1 - State and/or local guidance based on Covid-19 data puts students at home learning. All teachers will report to work. Students will have continued learning instruction, assignments, assessments and expectations through specified, robust virtual learning programs and opportunities facilitated by classroom teachers.

SJPS Model 2 - Hybrid - Within state and local guidance, students will attend school two days per week according to a pre-determined schedule. This significantly reduces the number of students in our buildings each day. On the other 3 days, students will have distance learning under teacher supervision. Students daily plans/calendar and communication center will be in Google classroom for all assignments for days not at school. We are not able to honor any requests, but are working to accommodate all siblings and households to the greatest extent possible.

SJPS Model 3 - All students report to school 5 days a week (as normal) but following Covid-19 procedures (hand washing, temperature checks, masks, etc.).

As always, SJP has a virtual school option. If you are interested in a total virtual option during this pandemic, please contact the Student Services via email (studentservices@sjpsb.org) for an application. Enrollment in the virtual school will be for the full year in elementary and middle schools (grades K-8) and for the entire semester in high school (grades 9-12).

Each model is being looked at with protective protocols in mind including, but not limited to, physical distancing, group size and protective equipment. Based on current data, we will likely return to school under SJPS Model 2. However, this could change based on fluctuations in local, state and federal data, so we will work to provide updated information as it becomes available.

We hope the remainder of the summer will be safe and restful. We look forward to educating our students and will keep their health and safety on the forefront. We are committed to getting our students back in our school buildings. We appreciate your patience.

Sincerely,

P. Edward Cancienne, PhD,
Superintendent, St. James Parish Schools