



Department of Catholic Schools

Archdiocese of San Antonio

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March 24, 2020

Dear Catholic Schools Families,

As we continue to adjust to the rapidly changing COVID-19 pandemic, we have been challenged to seek new and engaging solutions to ensure the continuation of learning for our students. In narrowing down our priorities, we are committed to providing solutions that continue offering quality instruction that remains grounded in our faith, while engaging our students in their school community in a tangible way. We are very aware of the social and emotional impact and sense of loss that many of our students, faculty, staff, and families are experiencing in having daily life impacted so drastically. Our administrators, faculty, counselors, and support staff have been creative and collaborative in meeting this challenge. The initial response has been overwhelmingly positive! I'm sure there will be some adjustments that will be needed as we navigate distance learning. We greatly appreciate your patience and ask for you to share concerns directly with the teachers and administrators so we can continually improve upon what we have just begun.

We are in unprecedented times, and this has been a very fluid situation that continues to change daily. There have been many questions regarding tuition. We will evaluate the situation once it is over, but as of now we are expecting tuition to be paid so that we can continue to pay our employees for the work that they have done and will continue to do. Our goal is to maximize student learning without interruption, despite our current circumstances. If families are experiencing financial hardships, we ask they follow the normal school process and make school administration aware of their situation. Schools will attempt to work with each family as resources allow. We appreciate your continued support as we navigate this road that we have never traveled!

Finally, I had previously indicated that we would move to the distance learning platform through April 3. With San Antonio and Bexar County officials announcing last night the "Stay Home, Work Safe" measures that will be in place through April 9, our time for distance learning has been extended. Our desire is to have students back on campus as soon as possible. However, it is unreasonable to give a firm date at this time. We will continuously monitor the situation and are hopeful that we will be back in school within the eight week time period discussed at the federal level, which would have us continuing distance learning through May 8. If there is any possibility to return sooner, we absolutely will! I just want families to realistically plan that this situation may continue longer than anyone originally anticipated.

This is a most extraordinary time. There will be many blessings through the struggles that lie ahead. Please know that we are united in prayer and are most grateful for your continued commitment to Catholic education.

God Bless,

Marti West
Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Archdiocese of San Antonio