

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding SJB's Reopening Plan

1. How will the school support kids emotionally? We expect this to be a major part of what we do in the first few weeks. Teachers have been given resources and understand that we must provide emotional-social-mental health support in the classroom. We believe that a gradual return to consistency and normalcy – some kind of a school routine – will be the first big step. Eliciting conversation from students will be a second big step.
2. Who has to wear face coverings and when? Everyone in the school must wear face coverings at all times, even at recess. During lunch, students will remove the masks to eat. This policy is for all staff and students from preschool to 8th grade. Parents are asked to wear face coverings during drop-off and pick-up. Appropriate face masks include surgical masks, cloth masks (double layered are best), and N95 without the valve. Students may not wear clear face shields,

inform the school that a student has been exposed to Covid-19 at home or elsewhere. In that scenario, the child must stay home for two weeks or until a negative Covid-19 test result is produced. If a student tests positive for Covid-19 or shows Covid-19-like symptoms, the school will inform the child's family that the child must stay home for 14 days and may return with a signed doctor's note that the child is free of Covid-19. A call to the Maryland State Department of Health would be made in the event of a positive test result. The school would then follow the quarantine guidance of the health-department expert.

5. Who are the team members who will supplement the teachers? They include Mrs. Castillo, Mrs. Case, Mrs. Pifer, Mr. Flaherty, Mrs. Irwin, Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Jenkins, Ms. Sarah, and Senora Galan.
6. Are all of the teachers planning to return? Mrs. Smith retired, and Ms. Lewanika left to pursue a new venture. Mr. Patrick Flaherty will teach middle-school religion and help in other classes. Amid warnings against singing we did not hire a new music teacher.
7. Will the kids be in the same room all day, every day for the full year? We are following the guidance of health experts who say students should stay in one location while teachers move from classroom to classroom. Students will be in the same classroom, for the most part, throughout the day. We are providing each grade with a morning recess and afternoon recess and encouraging teachers to let some students go outside for lunch. Tents with tables and chairs are being set up for students who have classes or lunch outside. The school is getting rubber yoga mats for students to sit on when their class goes outside for a lesson or story-time.
8. What extra school supplies do the kids need to bring? In addition to the supplies on the grade-level supply list (under Parents on the website), each student should bring a personal supply of tissues and hand sanitizer to keep inside the

student's desk, as well as ear buds (with mic) or audio head set (with mic) to use with Chromebooks.

9. How will decisions be made on which kids are in which room? **At this time, based on the initial number of students opting for distance learning, in-school students will remain in their own grade-level classrooms. If the number of students in school increases, some classes will be divided. Group determinations would be made based on (a) After Care groups (b) in grades 5-8 by Math Groups (c) in grades K-4 by reading groups.**
10. How will kids wash hands? Will there be more stations? **Each child will have sanitizer at his or her desk, and teachers will schedule frequent bathroom breaks for hand-washing and surface cleaning.**
11. How will you secure resources for cleaning? **Five staff members are being trained to operate the recently purchased industrial-level electrostatic disinfectant sprayer.**



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12. Who will clean? A staff schedule is being developed to help with cleaning during the school day. Children will not handle disinfectant. At times, children will clean surfaces with soap, water, and towels.
13. How will you hold mass? Will you be doing communion in mass? Children will attend Mass by livestream initially.
14. How will kids get physical activity? The PE teacher and recess monitors are developing a list of games and activities for fun and exercise for children, who must remain 6 feet apart and wear masks while outside.
15. Is it possible to offer more options for being outside and active? How will that happen? What about bad weather? Teachers are encouraged to take children outside to shaded places for lessons and activities while ensuring the inclusion and participation of distance learners. Students will be encouraged to eat lunch outside in tents. The children will be seated 6 feet apart and will face the same way. In bad weather, small groups will rotate into the gym for exercise.
16. What if there is an emergency? How will kids shelter in place? The school will be judicious in planning for emergencies such as a lockdown or storm shelter

response. Students will view on overhead diagram and receive instructions on what to do in an emergency but will not be required to actively drill in a way that would cause crowding. In any actual emergency, school leaders and educators will always respond swiftly to the most immediate threat to the kids. As soon as possible, the school would tell parents about the event and any subsequent measures as a result of the event.

17. How will you deal with shared resources like science labs? Classes will not be able to use shared space such as the science lab, technology lab, art room, and library. Each of those spaces may be used by one designated group of students.
18. Will the kids still have art/music/library/PE? Art will be taught in the classroom. There will be no music class, but teachers have been asked to integrate music into the curriculum. Library class will be brought to the classroom, and some story-time classes will take place outside. PE classes will take place outside as much as possible.
19. How will kids deal with all of the many, many materials they have? Students will keep materials in their backpacks under/behind their chairs.
20. What if my child wants to do distance learning on some days and in-school learning on other days? Children may not go back and forth from distance learning to in-school learning. Classrooms are set up to allow a certain number of students, seated 6 feet apart, in a specific space. Additional desks and chairs have been removed to provide that space. Parents must decide by Aug. 21 how their child will start the school year. There are designated dates for parents to notify the school that their child will switch from distance learning to in-school learning. On Sept. 16, parents may notify the school that their child wishes to switch from distance learning to in-school learning starting on Monday, Sept. 21. The next opportunity to switch will be Wednesday, Oct. 28, when parents may notify the school that their child intends to return on Monday, Nov. 1. If a parent

has selected in-school learning for the child, the parent can always switch the child to distance learning with notice to the teacher. If a child is quarantined for any reason, such as travel to a high-transmission state, the child would stay home for school by livestream until the end of the quarantine and return to school.

21. How will you test/track exposure outside of school? Morning screenings include a temperature reading of each child and three questions aimed at eliciting information about any possible exposure. Parents are being asked to sign an acknowledgment form and to keep children quarantined for two weeks before the first day of school.
22. How will you screen for school each day? Three staff members will ask walk down the carpool line and ask students to stand outside the car for temperature readings and three questions: **1.** In the past 15 days, have you knowingly been directly exposed or been around anyone who has been exposed to Coronavirus known as COVID-19? **2.** In the past 15 days, have you or anyone in your household exhibited any symptoms such as cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, loss of taste, or loss of smell? **3.** In the past 15 days, has anyone in your household been subject to quarantine by an employer or any other school? If the child's temperature is under 100.4 F and the child responds "no" to all three questions, the parents will be cleared to drive away and students may walk to their classrooms.
23. How will you deal with symptomatic kids or family members? Who/how will you communicate? If a child shows symptoms, the intercom call button will be used, and an office staff member will retrieve the student. Any student or staff member with Covid-19 symptoms will be placed in the designated isolation room, the large study across the hall from the school office. Only designated attendants wearing PPE will be permitted to enter. Attendants will follow a

Covid-19 response protocol to determine whether to call 911 or a family member for retrieval. Symptoms of COVID-19-like illness include 1. New onset cough or shortness of breath OR 2. At least two of the following: fever of 100.4 degrees or higher, chills, shivering, muscle pain, sore throat, headache, loss of sense of taste or smell, or gastrointestinal symptoms (nausea, vomiting or diarrhea).

24. Will you be adding a full-time or part-time nurse or medical resource? The school is unable to add medical personnel to the staff at this time. The school has an experienced *designating nurse* who receives additional school-nurse training and recertification each year. The school has a consulting pediatrician, as well. Both have volunteered many hours throughout the crisis and have pledged to remain available to the service of the school. The school is grateful to both of them. In addition, three staff members are medication technicians certified by the Maryland Board of Nursing and two staff members have state certifications in medication administration. The medication certified staffers make up the isolation attendant team.
25. Will students receive I's or P's for grades again? The school is using the regular grading scale and form: standards-based grades in PK-3, A-F in grades 4-8.
26. I am worried that my child has lost academic ground since March. How will the school make sure that my child catches up? It will not be the goal of the school to make up lost academic ground for quite some time. The goal of the school is to support families and help children by allowing for the safe return to school with some consistency and normalcy in daily routines. New procedures and routines will be reviewed and practiced. Breaks will be taken for cleaning, handwashing, and for children to go outside for fresh air and exercise. The school will set safety routines and strong foundations for a positive learning environment. Academic progress will accelerate, in time, not in haste.

27. Is the school having its Back to School Night? All assemblies, shows, concerts, and live family events on the calendar have been cancelled. The school will set dates and times and send invitations for virtual versions of events such as Back to School Night.