



St. Mary Catholic Schools
Grades P3-12

A Community Inspiring Success

*Preparing and inspiring students to lead meaningful lives,
rooted in the teachings of Christ in our Catholic tradition.*

April 23, 2020

Dear SMCS Families,

When we began this school year, none of us imagined that this is how we would be ending it! With the Governor's recent order to cancel all K-12 classes for the remainder of the school year, and with the Legislature's approval of a change in the Hours of Instruction requirement for this academic year, we can now begin to plan for our final weeks of 2019-2020.

We have certainly had some ups and downs as we've rolled out remote learning so very quickly, however, I continue to be amazed at how our teachers, you as parents, and certainly our students have risen to this challenge. You and your children can be proud of what we have TOGETHER been able to accomplish.

At this point, we are now able to share details of how we're going to round out this year.

Each of your principals will be providing you with more specific details about how this will lay out for your particular campus based on specific needs, cleaning schedules, etc. However, here's the general outline for our system:

- **April 24 - May 22** Each campus will develop a schedule for parents to drop off work and pick up personal items from student desks and lockers.
- **May 1** Professional Development - Our faculty members will be working with their principals on this day to take care of the many things that they have to do behind the scenes to continue our remote learning.
- **May 4 - 22** Continue with remote learning. If there are any adjustments needed, you will be informed of those changes by your own campus principal. We are particularly looking at pacing learning appropriately for this extended time so as not to place undue stress on students, parents, and teachers.
- **May 22** Final day of DIRECT instruction
- **May 26 - 29** Teachers will be working this week to complete such things as final collection of assignments and assisting individual students or small groups with missed concepts prior to semester closure.
- **June 1 - 4** Teachers will be working this week closing out the year by completing such things as assisting with book and laptop collections, preparing grades, meeting together to help transition students between levels, and physically closing their classrooms.
- **June 5** Final teacher workday for this school year reserved as needed for final

building or system meetings.

In addition to the above, we are continuing to work on details related to student celebrations, awards, and graduation. More details will be forthcoming about those things soon from your specific campus principal.

I pray that all of you will be well through this health crisis, and that you are able to give yourself the grace to let those things go that you cannot control so that your mental health is protected as well. It is in times like these that we need to let go and LET GOD ... and THANK GOD for ALL of YOU!!

Mary, our Patron and Mother of us all Pray for us!!
Live Jesus in our hearts Forever!!

Pat.

Patrick D. Batey
Superintendent - St. Mary Catholic Schools
