



2021-2022 Back to School Plan



Start of School

- **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: Wednesday, September 8 at 8:00AM!**

ARRIVAL

- Students can be dropped off beginning at 7:30AM and will be admitted to their rooms at 7:45am.
- K-4 students should be dropped off in front.
- 5-8 students should be dropped off in the back.



School Dismissal

- Students will be dismissed via side or back carpool rooms depending on the age of the youngest rider within their vehicle.
- Side Carpool: youngest rider preK-2nd
- Back Carpool: youngest rider 3rd-8th
- Busing students will exit through door 1
- Further carpool information has been provided to each family



Classroom Learning Environment

- Classrooms will be arranged to accommodate space between students while also supporting meaningful interaction.
- Students will travel to each of their Specialist classes weekly.
- Frequent use areas and shared materials will be disinfected regularly.
- Students will have designated routes when moving in the hallways to limit interactions.
- Off-campus field trips will be evaluated case-by-case.



Health Protocols

- Parents will assess their child's health daily before school and keep your child home if he/she is ill.
- Students will wash their hands frequently throughout the day including each morning, before and after lunch and recess, and restroom breaks. Signs encouraging more frequent handwashing and respiratory etiquette will be placed throughout the building.
- Touchless water bottle filling stations have been installed in each pod and drinking fountains will not be used. Each student is encouraged to bring their own water bottle to school daily. Please label your student's water bottle.
- Hand sanitizer stations are placed in each classroom and throughout the building.
- The school nurse will separate and monitor all students experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, and will notify families of possible exposure.



Cleaning Protocols

- Custodial staff will clean high-touch areas in the building throughout the day.
- The building's air handling system is constantly running to bring in additional fresh air throughout the day and filters are routinely changed.



Mask/Face Coverings

- Masks/face coverings will be required for all preK-8 students throughout the school day except during lunch and outdoor activities.
- All teachers and staff will be required to wear masks throughout the school day.
- The school office will provide students with extra masks if needed.
- All parents and volunteers that enter the school building will be required to wear a face covering while they are in the school building.



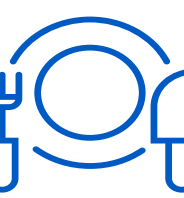
Guests, Parents, and Volunteers

- We will invite some limited parent volunteer roles, arranged directly with the classroom teacher or through HSA. Parent volunteers, vendors and visitors must wear a face covering and sign in at the front desk.
- During the school day, we will continue to utilize the "no contact" drop-offs and pickups as much as possible - if you are leaving an item for a student, or coming to pick up your child, simply call the front office.



Our Faith in Action

- We plan to continue with weekly Mass, utilizing smaller groups in the gym, rotating (i.e. 1-2, 3-5, 6-8). Parents of the "host class" will be invited in person for Mass.
- Grade levels not in the gym will participate in the Mass by livestream into the classrooms.
- Daily prayer in the classroom will continue, and Parents in Prayer will gather in a hybrid manner.



Lunch and Recess

- Both hot and cold lunch will be served.
- All students will be scheduled to eat lunch in the cafeteria with their designated age group.
- Students will have an outdoor recess period each day, weather permitting.



Social Emotional Health

- We believe that in-person learning with new guidelines will have a positive effect on the emotional well-being of our students and staff.
- Faithful Shepherd will have a school counselor available each week.



Communication

- Our regular weekly newsletter will contain updates specific to our procedures and protocols, including updates from the school nurse.
- We will use an alert communication system similar to snow days to notify parents if we need to implement a school shut down quickly.



Faithful Shepherd COVID Response

Assessing and handling illness

- School policies will continue to be informed by MDH and CDC guidance.
- Parents and staff are to read and become familiar with the MDH decision tree, close contact, and positive case MDH documents linked below.
- [Covid-19 Decision Tree](#)
- <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/contact.pdf>
- <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/case.pdf>
- Parents are expected to assess students for symptoms daily.
- If your student exhibits symptoms or is exposed to COVID 19 use these documents to determine how long they need to stay home. Notify the school of absences and expected return date.
- If your student tests positive for COVID 19, notify Faithful Shepherd school office.
- Faithful Shepherd will work with MDH to determine any exposure and will notify families accordingly.
- For most classroom situations, if both the person with COVID and those in close contact are masked, the individuals in contact will not need to quarantine unless they experience symptoms.
- If you need assistance in interpreting the guidelines for your child or family please contact the school nurse.
- Teachers will accommodate students with appropriate learning plans during a prolonged absence, based on age, grade level, and current lessons.
- Families will be advised to follow Minnesota Department of Health travel recommendation.