

August 30, 2020

Good afternoon families,

Hope everyone continues to be well and is excited for the start of school this week! All our staff and teachers are over the moon to see our students' smiling (behind masks) faces! :)

As a reminder, Pre-K and kindergarten students are welcome to bring in their supplies tomorrow, Mon., 8/31, between 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. School will be open from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM for any other students that need to drop off supplies. When entering the building, please use hand sanitizer provided and all parents and students must wear masks.

OPENING SCHEDULE

School begins for students in grades 1 - 8 on Tues., 9/1; condensed schedule for the week is:

- Tue., 9/1: early dismissal at 11:30 AM
- Wed., 9/2: early dismissal at 11:30 AM
- Thu., 9/3: early dismissal at 11:30 AM
- Fri. & Mon., 9/4, 9/5: no school (Labor Day)

Regular, full day schedule for all students pre-K through 8th resumes on Tues., 9/8.

UNIFORMS

Students may (not required) wear gym uniforms every day in the first weeks of school as it continues to be warm in the buildings. We will advise when regular uniforms resume.

MASKS, SANITIZER & WATER

We ask that each family also supply at least 3 face masks for each student; please also bring a bottle of hand sanitizer for their desk. Given since we will not be using the water bubblers, we greatly appreciate each family's donation of case of water to their child's classroom.

STUDENT DROP OFF & PICK-UP

We are grateful for everyone's continued patience and flexibility as we welcome students and staff back to the classrooms. We have committed a notable amount of time planning for a safe and supportive environment but expect there will be some bumps along the way. We will worth through all challenges as quickly and effectively as possible and evolve as one community.

To that end, as a reminder, there is no busing at this time. Student drop-off and pick-up at end of school days will be a work in progress. We are opening with the following plan and appreciate your assistance and patience in the first few weeks:

MORNING DROP OFF

- Parents may drop off students beginning at 7:30 AM. Students whose classrooms are on the main floor (office location) will be using the main door and students whose classrooms are on the 2nd floor will enter by using the door located near the parking garage. There will be faculty inside to make sure students hand sanitize and keep social distance as they walk to their classroom.
- Parents who wish to have their child use the before care program which will now open at 6:45 will have the children enter through the downstairs cafeteria door. Miss Marquis will watch the children from 6:45-7:30 AM and dismiss them to their classroom in an orderly fashion by grade. Fees for the before care are \$2 per day for one child and \$3 a day for two children. Please see the information on the before care program registration form.

AFTERNOON PICKUP

- We ask all families to place a sign (at least 8.5 x 11") on your driver's side window with student's name and grade; see sample [HERE](#). When entering the parking lot (using the fence area by the LGH parking garage), ICS staff will write down your child's name and walkie talkie to the office to call them to the main back door. Students will be escorted to your car. We will direct the cars when they can leave.
- Please have the driver side back seat available so we may place your child safely in your car. This will alleviate children and staff to have to cut across in front of cars to get to the other side.

Again, this will be a work in progress and may take longer than expected especially at the beginning of this school year. We want to keep everyone in their vehicles to contain any possible exposure. We will begin dismissing at approximately 1:50 PM; if you are looking to reduce wait time, you may want to plan pick-up 10-15 minutes later (2:00-2:05).

NOTE: we are seeking parent volunteers to assist with the first few days of pick-up procedures. Please email icslowell@hotmail.com if you are able to assist. Thank you for any help you can provide.

If your student (s) will be walking home after school, please send a note to school confirming permission for the given day or for the year / applicable time-frame.

OPENING REFERENCE DOCUMENTS ROUND-UP

Please see the following links for updated information regarding our re-opening, Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 classrooms and First Communion:

- [Letter from the Principal - 8/24/20](#)
- [Updated ICS Re-Opening Plans - 8/24/20](#)
- [Pre-K3 & Pre-K4 Updates - 8/24/20](#)

- [First Communion Information](#)
- [Protocols for ICS Re-Opening - 8/20/20](#)
- [Tentative School Calendar 2020 - 2021](#)

UPDATE FROM ARCHDIOCESE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Please use the following link to access an update from Thomas Carroll, Superintendent of Schools, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston, which contains some great information and videos for students and parents on returning to school this year., wearing masks, etc.

LINK: [Monthly Superintendent Newsletter - August 28, 2020](#)

I will continue to provide updates and additional information, as needed. Please feel free to call the school or email me at icslowell@hotmail.com with any questions or concerns meantime.

We are all looking forward to welcoming you all back in coming days! I expect a wonderful school year and continue to pray every day for a safe, healthy and successful school year for all.

Sincerely,
Cathy Fiorino
Principal