

## **AMMENDMENT TO ST. PAUL'S CDS COVID-19 POLICIES & PROCEDURES FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR**

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the school year goals of St. Paul's Christian Day School are to provide a happy, stress-free learning and playing environment for the children, to keep the school open every day and to avoid quarantining classes of children. We are very encouraged by the success of the summer program; yet, the additional challenges we face with the school year are the upcoming cold and flu season and the large numbers of children and staff going back to school which increases exposure to illness. Viruses love crowds!

In recent consultation with local public health authorities to evaluate where our community stands in regard to COVID-19, the Christian Day School Board and Administration received updated information and recommendations, specifically related to student and staff intermittent use of cloth face coverings in school; therefore, beginning Monday, August 24, Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students are required to bring a face covering to school every day. This decision is based on scientific evidence that older elementary and middle school children may spread infection to others as efficiently as adults. Cloth face coverings help protect the wearer and other people by creating a barrier that reduces the spray of respiratory droplets which play a key role in the spread of COVID-19. Students and staff will not be required to wear face coverings all day. As a parent, if you want your child to wear a face covering at all times, please communicate that request to your child's teacher. For Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> Graders, coverings need to hang around their necks when not in use. Over the ear masks can be retrofitted by attaching elastic or ribbon. Neck gaiters work well for easy "masking up" or "masking down". Neck gaiters are inexpensive, easy to launder, available in youth sizes, and eliminate misplacement. They also come in a set of 6 which will provide 1 for each day.

**Kindergarten through Second Grade Students will be required to wear a face covering**

- when entering or exiting the building (drop-off and pick-up in the drive-thru). .
- when transitioning to and from other areas of the school building (to and from art, music, library, lunch room, restroom, etc.).

**Kindergarten through Second Grade Students will not be required to wear a face covering:**

- when on the playground.
- when eating lunch.
- when at P.E.
- when in a classroom.
- when learning activities are conducted outdoors.

**Third through Sixth Grade Students** will be required to wear a face covering

- when entering or exiting the building (drop-off and pick-up in the drive-thru). .
- when transitioning to and from other areas of the school building (to and from art, music, library, lunch room, restroom, etc.).
- when unable to physical distance in the classroom (small group learning activities, receiving one-on-one assistance from the teacher, etc.).

**Third through Sixth Grade Students** will not be required to wear a face covering

- when on the playground.
- when eating lunch.
- when at P.E.
- when table barrier is in place in a classroom.
- when learning activities are conducted outdoors.

**Staff** will be required to wear face coverings

- when in common areas (drive-thru, workroom, hallways, reception area, etc.).
- when unable to physical distance from other adults.
- when unable to physical distance in the classroom (providing small group instruction or one-on-one assistance to students). \*Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade teachers can be unmasked when it is necessary for optimal instruction.

**Staff** will not be required to wear face coverings

- when physical distanced from students or other adults \*Exception for K-2 teachers when necessary for optimal instruction
- when on the playground
- when eating lunch
- when conducting learning activities outdoors

Weekend contact number for questions:

Sherrie Winkelmann 979-251-2933