St. Rita of Cascia High School

Opening Guide Fall 2020

Procedures and Guidelines for the Opening of St. Rita High School the Fall of 2020

St. Rita Opening Committee 7-20-2020

Introduction

This guide was developed by a multi-disciplined dedicated team of administrators, faculty and staff members, known as the St. Rita Committee for Opening School.

The purpose of this guide is to provide an overview of the procedures and guidelines St. Rita of Cascia High School will use to open in the fall of 2020. It is based on the available information at the time of its writing. This information was used to prepare a plan which strives to provide a safe environment for all students, faculty, staff and visitors.

The primary sources consulted for the information in this guide were:

(IDPH) Illinois Department of Public Health

(ISBE) Illinois State Board of Education

(CDPH) Chicago Department of Public Health

(CDC) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

This guide is considered a living document and subject to change as needed to meet changing regulations, guidelines and adjust to changing situations. In order to keep track of changes the document carries a revision level at the lower left corner. The whole number will increase as the content changes. The decimal number is for minor changes not related to content such as punctuation, typos etc. The last page of this document contains a revision log to document the changes.

Contents

Introduction	1
Transportation	2
Students Arrival at School	2
Visitors to St. Rita	2
Employees Arriving at School	
Passing in Hallways and Stairways	
Entering and Leaving Classrooms	
Classroom Setup	
Classroom Operation	6
Restrooms	6
Locker Access	6
Drinking Fountains	6
E-Learning Expectations	
Dining Hall Guidelines	8
General Kitchen Guidelines	8
Breakfast	8
Lunch	8
Paying for Food	9
Receiving Deliveries	9
Teacher Workrooms & Lounges	10
Extracurricular Gatherings	10
Athletics	10
After School McCarthy Center Usage	11
Temperature Scanning Procedure	12
Excessive Temperature Protocol	12
Return to School Protocol	12
Travel Guidelines	12
Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)	13
Face Coverings/Masks	13
Hand Sanitizer	13
Gloves	13
Face Shields	13
Cleaning, Sanitizing & Disinfecting	13
Contact Tracing Form	12

Excessive Temperature Log	15
Revision Log	16

Transportation

It is highly recommended that students/parents arrange personal transportation if at all possible.

St. Rita buses will be operated at a reduced capacity. Only one student per seat whenever possible. Students living in the same household can share a seat. Masks are to be worn before entering the bus and during the entire trip to/from school. Hand sanitizer will be available. Student's temperature will be taken upon entering the bus. Anyone whose temperature checks above 100.4° will be asked to return home. The students name is to be recorded and given to the dean's office for follow-up.

Bus windows are to be open whenever weather allows.

Drivers must submit to our 'Temperature Scanning Procedure' before the start of each shift. If they fail the scan they cannot work and must follow the 'Excessive Temperature Protocol'. This must be reported to their supervisor immediately and a 'Contact Tracing Form' will need to be filled out (preferably on line) including the names of any passengers from the previous bus run.

Transportation for sporting events will follow Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) requirements and recommendations unless none are given, in which case St. Rita's guidelines will apply.

Students Arrival at School

Social distancing and approved face masks are required at all times.

Regardless of mode of transport, students are to enter through Door #15 (at Mrozek Fitness Center) or Door #25 (on circle drive). Other doors and locations may be used if it is deemed necessary. Students should form a single file line and maintain a 6 foot spacing while entering. The first step is the 'Temperature Scanning Procedure'. Upon passing the temperature scan students are to move on to their locker, the dining hall or first class. Anyone not passing the temperature scan will be asked to follow the 'Excessive Temperature Protocol'.

If a student does not have a first period class they will be required to go to a designated waiting area. This may be one of the following: Auditorium, Dining Hall, Student Center or a specific classroom. The location will depend on the need and the available staffing to monitor these locations.

Visitors to St. Rita

Parents, sales people and all other visitors are to be encouraged to do business electronically whenever possible. When an in person visit is necessary they should make an appointment with the person/department they intend on visiting. St. Rita faculty/staff expecting a visitor should inform the security desk the morning of the scheduled visit.

Face coverings and social distancing are required at all times.

All visitors to St. Rita are to park in the west lot in the spots marked for visitors. They must enter through Door #15 and immediately submit to our 'Temperature Scanning Procedure'. After passing the scan they will need to submit their credentials at the security desk, at which time they can state the nature of their business to the staff member at the desk.

Visitors are not allowed beyond the security desk without a St. Rita employee escort.

Any Visitor not willing to submit to our safety protocols will be asked to leave immediately!

Employees Arriving at School

All school employees are to submit to our 'Temperature Scanning Procedure' upon arrival. Face coverings (masks) are to be worn in all public areas and during any face to face meetings. Face coverings may be removed while alone in your own work area or while eating.

Note, all other employee information not related to safety will be addressed by the HR department and/or the school president.

Passing in Hallways and Stairways

All movement in the hallways will follow the right hand rule (stay to your right). The middle section of the hallway should be open and clear. This should be followed in all parts and floors of the building, at all times.

Stairways – The west academic stairway will be used for moving upstairs. Lower level to first floor, first floor to second floor. The east stairway will be for moving downstairs from the second floor to the first floor and first floor to lower level.

These guidelines are to be followed by faculty, staff, students and guests.

The exception to this rule is during an emergency

IF THE FIRE ALARM SOUNDS - Leave the building via the nearest exit as quickly and quietly as possible.

IF THERE IS AN INTRUDER EVENT - Take the safest route available to secure your safety.

DURING THREATENING WEATHER – The lower level may be utilized to its full capacity.

Entering and Leaving Classrooms

Entering and leaving any classroom is to be done in an orderly well-spaced manner. No personal contact should be tolerated. While entering students should go directly to their seat and not mingle.

It is highly suggested that at class dismissal, the students be released one row at a time starting the row closest to the door and working your way across the room. This will alleviate the bottleneck at the door. Students should NOT be allowed to dismiss themselves via the class ending bell.

Classroom Setup

Due to social distancing guidelines requiring a minimum of 6 feet between individuals, our classroom capacity has been reduced to 15 students and a teacher. This was necessary to provide the required spacing.

The student desk placement has been marked out on the floor and all student desks must face forward as per IDPH & Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) requirements. Teachers and students must work to keep the desks properly located.

No auxiliary furnishings or soft surface furniture is allowed. Remove any personal furniture, carpets etc. This is to allow effective cleaning, sanitizing and spacing.

Marking has been placed across the front of the room to indicate a 6 feet distance from the students to a teacher's work zone. This provides an area at the front of the room for the teacher to lecture from, use the white board, do presentations, etc. The teacher's desk is to be located at the front of the room, furthest from the door, within the teacher's work zone. Students may be allowed to use the board as long as social distancing of 6 feet is maintained.

All social distancing guidelines should be followed and maintained as much as possible.

Classroom Operation

A seating chart is required. Attendance must be taken at the start of each class.

Only 15 students will be allowed in the classroom at a time. The remainder of the class will use remote learning techniques.

Social distancing is to be maintained to the fullest extent possible. St. Rita approved masks are required to be worn in classrooms by students and teachers. Students are to bring everything they need for class with them. There is to be no sharing (pens, pencils, paper, etc.) among the students.

Students are to remain in their assigned seats for the entire class period unless otherwise directed by the class teacher.

Teachers should remain in their defined work zone. They may visit a student's desk if necessary. There should be no contact and only visit a student's desk for as short a time as possible.

Students should not be allowed out of class unless the teacher deems it an emergency.

Windows should be open in all, but the most inclement weather. On days predicted to be above 80° windows could be closed to provide a more comfortable environment. This will help prevent mask removal to wipe sweat from the face etc. The same conditions should occur on days when the room temperature falls below 65°.

Fans cannot be used as per IDPH & ISBE guidelines.

Restrooms

Restroom use is to be limited. Social distancing is to be maintained at all times.

Urinals – in order to encourage social distancing during urinal usage two fixtures will be taken out of service between operational units. This will provide the required 6 foot spacing.

Toilets – use as normal as there are partitions separating these fixtures.

Sinks – while these units are slightly under the 6 foot distancing recommendation, it is considered more beneficial to have the extra two sinks available for hand washing.

Hands are to be washed after every washroom use and whenever possible!

Handwashing is considered far superior to Hand Sanitizer (see the section on hand sanitizer).

Locker Access

There are 3 times a day a student can access their locker:

Upon arrival - after passing through temperature screening

Lunch – students may be allowed to go to their lockers at the teacher's discretion

Dismissal – students may access their lockers as they leave

Drinking Fountains

Only units with the touchless bottle fillers will be available. The 'drink from the fixture' sections will be disabled or covered. Students will be allowed to have personal or disposable water bottles. They are not to be shared.

E-Learning Expectations

- 1. Proper attire must be worn for all classes. St. Rita Spirit wear for class is required for at home remote learning.
- Policies regarding hair and shaving will not be in effect for at home remote learning, however all students must be presentable when attending classes. Upon return to classes at St. Rita, all dress code polices will be in effect.
- 3. For remote learning, cameras must be turned on and the student must be visible for the entire class.
- 4. Students real names must be used at all times, and the St. Rita of Cascia IDP (Identity Provider) must be used to login to all online classes.
- 5. Students who are remote learning from home, must be seated at a table, desk, or area conducive to learning.
- 6. Students must be on time for every class. Excessive tardiness to any class will not be accepted whether remote learning or otherwise.
- 7. Any early dismissal request must be cleared through the teacher at the beginning of class. Abuse of this policy will not be tolerated and will be handled by the Dean of Students.
- 8. Students must only attend classes in which they are enrolled.
- 9. A remote learning from home background that can be seen through digital learning must be appropriate as deemed by the St. Rita Administration.
- 10. No use of profanity, vulgarity, or any racial/ethnic slurs will be tolerated.
- 11. Conversations and discussions must be of a respectful nature when interacting with students and teachers.
- 12. Do not create, send, or display offensive messages or pictures at any time.
- 13. No smoking, vaping, or any form of controlled substances, will be tolerated at any time, whether while remote learning from home or otherwise. This also includes images, paraphernalia, or likenesses of a controlled substance.
- 14. No gang affiliation of any kind will be tolerated.
- 15. Only photos or videos that are part of an assignment can be taken and the student MUST have the express permission of those being photographed or filmed.
- 16. Academic Honesty must be practiced at all times.
- 17. All technology must be used in accordance with the Acceptable Use Policy as stated in the St. Rita Student Handbook.
- 18. Behavior in a Digital Classroom is equivalent to behavior in any classroom at St. Rita High School. Failure to abide by any of the above policies or those listed in our Student Handbook is subject to disciplinary action from the Dean of Students.

Dining Hall Guidelines

The state guidelines allow using the dining hall following social distancing requirements.

General Kitchen Guidelines

All employees including kitchen staff are required to pass our 'Temperature Scanning Procedure' before starting work. All kitchen staff are to wear their hair nets, face coverings (masks) at all times. Gloves are to be worn while preparing or serving food & drink. All Chicago Department of Public Health & IDPH codes regarding food service are to be strictly enforced by the kitchen manager. Frequent hand washing is required.

Hand sanitizer is not allowed in a kitchen setting and is not a substitute for handwashing.

None of the self-serve coolers are to be accessed by students.

Serving - All food products, hot or cold are to be put on a tray and/or in boxes and passed to the student without personal contact.

Utensils of the prepackaged single serving type are to be included with the tray/box.

Likewise all condiments are to be single serving packages and supplied with the tray/box at the time of serving.

No utensils, squeeze/pump or packaged condiments etc. are to be in the dining hall or accessible to the students directly. All of these are to be provided with the meal at the time of serving without personal contact.

All materials consumed or NOT are to be disposed of in trash cans provided. Unused packets cannot be returned for future use.

Breakfast

Masks are to be worn at all times with the exception of when individuals are physically eating.

Breakfast will be served in the dining hall following all social distancing guidelines. Students are to be metered into the serving line one at a time where they can select from the food offerings. A kitchen staff member will place their selection on a tray with prepackaged utensils and condiments and a drink, if one was requested.

The student will proceed to the touchless paying station and then on to the dining hall. They are required to follow all social distancing guidelines. At the completion of their meal, they are required to dispose of all trash in cans provided.

Lunch

Due to social distancing requirements and the limited capacity of the dining hall, students will be allowed to purchase lunch in the dining hall, but will eat in the classrooms during D and E periods.

Students purchasing lunch will be released to the dining hall at their assigned time. They are to go directly to the dining hall and not stop at lockers at this time. Students not purchasing lunch are to stay in the classroom with their teacher. All students proceeding to the dining hall are to travel as follows:

- First floor (100 113) go east to the administrative hallway, turn right to athletic hallway, then proceed to the first door of the dining hall (east) and enter the serving line cue as marked.
- Second floor (200 213) go down the east stairway to the administrative hallway, turn right to athletic hallway, then proceed to the first door of the dining hall (east) and enter the serving line cue as marked.
- Lower level (LL-1 thru LL-4) go to west stairway, proceed up to the first floor and follow the first floor path.
- Science Wing (114 117), Band & VLC (library) go to the academic hall, proceed east to the administration hallway and follow the first floor path.

Student are to maintain a minimum of 6 feet between each other and wear their mask the whole time. There will be social distancing reminders (markers, signs etc.) along the way.

Note: we have reversed the direction of the cafeteria serving line to allow a smooth flow of students and limit crossing paths.

As students enter the serving line they will have a choice of the prepackaged items the kitchen staff has prepared for the day. Drinks will also be available for purchase. These items will be passed to the student in a box, bag, etc. to reduce personal contact. After receiving their selection the student will proceed to our touchless pay stations just outside the west dining hall doors.

After paying the students are to proceed down Mendel Hall and directly back to their classroom. They are to use the appropriate stairways (up vs. down) and maintain social distancing.

When students arrive back in their classroom and are in their assigned seats they can remove their mask and eat lunch. This time could also be used for restroom breaks etc. Teachers also need to be present in the room the entire time. At the completion of their meal, students are required to put their mask on and dispose of all trash in cans provided.

During lunch all social distancing rules would still apply. No sharing of food or snacks is allowed. Masks would need to be removed, but only to eat. Conversations will be allowed during lunch, but students must stay in their assigned seat and wear their approved mask.

After lunch is complete, class can resume.

Paying for Food

A note on paying for food. As of the last few years, St. Rita has used a bar code on the student's ID to access a meal account. It is highly recommended that this account be pre-loaded from home through the Mealtime App. Cash can still be tendered at the register, but should be discouraged to prevent a possible viral transfer route.

Receiving Deliveries

All delivery personal bringing supplies to the kitchen must wear a mask and have their temperature taken before entering the kitchen. Anyone with a temperature exceeding 100.4° is not to be allowed in. Their company should be informed their employee failed our temperature scan. The shipment should be denied, unless suitable sanitizing can be performed before moving the supplies into the building.

Teacher Workrooms & Lounges

As with students, teachers should work to not use any shared items, even from fellow faculty/staff members. Teacher workrooms/lounges should be disinfected after each use and teachers should only utilize individual office supplies like staplers and paperclips. Any shared office supplies should be disinfected after each use. Staff workrooms and lounges also must adhere to 6-foot distancing. Capacity limitations need to be adhered to depending on the size of the space and availability of seating. Cleaning supplies will be available for cleaning frequently touched items, such as copy machines, table surfaces, refrigerator door handles, microwaves, coffee makers, etc.

Extracurricular Gatherings

Student clubs and organizations are encouraged to have a mixture of virtual and in-person gatherings. All extracurricular student club and organization gatherings must first be approved by the Associate Principal for Student Life & Communications to ensure all safety protocol is being followed.

Only 15 students will be allowed to gather in a classroom setting at a time. Gatherings of greater than 15 students must reserve a space such as the Auditorium, Dining Hall, McCarthy Center, Shrine Chapel or VLC. No extracurricular gathering is to go beyond 50 persons.

Attendance must be taken at the start of each gathering and summited immediately following the gathering to the Associate Principal for Student Life & Communications. Students who have already been subject to our 'Temperature Scanning Procedure' upon entering the building for the school day will not have to be rechecked, however, they will be subject to a Covid-19 symptom check. Any attendee who comes to the building solely for the purpose of the gathering or a gathering held in the evening or on the weekend must submit to our 'Temperature Scanning Procedure.' Any student with an excessive temperature and/or symptoms of Covid-19 will be asked to follow our 'Excessive Temperature Protocol.' In addition to informing the Deans' Office, club moderators must also notify the Associate Principal for Student Life and Communications of any student who needs to follow our 'Excessive Temperature Protocol.'

Social distancing is to be maintained to the fullest extent possible. St. Rita approved masks are required to be worn by students and club moderators. There is to be no sharing of supplies, therefore if any supplies are necessary the students must bring his own or the club/organization moderator must supply supplies for each individual.

Students should not be allowed in and out privileges, once a gathering begins, all participants should remain in the designated space unless the moderator deems it an emergency.

Athletics

St. Rita sports will follow the schedule and safety guidelines established in the IHSA 'Return to Play' guidelines. In addition, sports will follow additional safety protocol set by the St. Rita Athletic Department.

Students who have already been subject to our 'Temperature Scanning Procedure' upon entering the building for the school day will not have to be rechecked, however, they will be subject to a Covid-19 symptom check. Any attendee who comes to the building solely for the purpose of the athletic practice/workout or a workout/practice held in the evening or on the weekend must submit to our 'Temperature Scanning Procedure.' Any student with an excessive temperature and/or symptoms of Covid-19 will be asked to follow our 'Excessive Temperature Protocol.' In addition to informing the Deans' Office, coaches must also notify the Athletic Office of any student who needs to follow our 'Excessive Temperature Protocol.'

Teams are to use designated athletic facilities and maintain attendance and spacing guidelines as established in the IHSA 'Return to Play' guidelines. For teams that need to gather in other locations for meetings and/or film review, only 15 students will be allowed to gather in a classroom setting at a time. Gatherings of greater than 15 students must reserve a space such as the Auditorium, Dining Hall, McCarthy Center, Shrine Chapel or VLC. No team gathering is to go beyond 50 persons.

The Athletic Department will designate space for each team to store equipment and dress for practices/workouts. Coaches will monitor these designated spaces and stagger use with capacity limits based upon location size to maintain appropriate social distancing.

After School McCarthy Center Usage

The McCarthy Center will be open after school for students waiting on a ride for an extended period. Students will not be allowed in and out privileges. Students who enter the McCarthy Center must check-in with the McCarthy Center Coordinator and check-out before leaving. The McCarthy Center Coordinator will maintain a log of daily student usage.

Social distancing is to be maintained to the fullest extent possible. St. Rita approved masks are required to be worn by students. Students are to use the McCarthy Center as a place to get work done or relax while waiting for a ride. The usual recreation equipment in the McCarthy Center will be temporarily unavailable.

Temperature Scanning Procedure

Everyone entering the building is required to submit to a temperature scan. Your temperature will be taken with a touchless thermometer designed for this purpose.

A temperature of 100.4°F or less is considered acceptable.

A temperature exceeding 100.4°F will require a rescan after a cool down period of 5 to 10 minutes in a designated location. This will be the VLC at door #15 or the Shrine Chapel when using door #25. If it becomes necessary to use other doors, an area will be designated near that door.

A rescan temperature of 100.4° or less will be accepted if there are no other symptoms of Covid-19

Anyone scanning above 100.4°F and/or showing symptoms of Covid-19 will be asked to follow our "Excessive Temperature Protocol".

Excessive Temperature Protocol

Actions to follow in the event an individual's temperature scans above the accepted safe level of 100.4°F

Visitors:

Inform the individual that they scanned above the IDPH acceptable temperature level and ask them to leave the campus. Record the date, time, name and temperature in the 'Excessive Temperature Log'.

Employees:

Inform them they scanned above the IDPH acceptable temperature level, Record the date, time, their name and scanned temperature in the 'Excessive Temperature Log'. Ask them to go home and fill out a 'Contact Tracing Form' online.

Inform their supervisor of the situation.

Students:

Inform them they scanned above the IDPH acceptable temperature level, move them into the nurse's office. Have them fill out a 'Contact Tracing Form' while they wait. The Dean's office must be informed at once. A parent/guardian must be called and arrangements made to have the student return home. Students are asked to continue with their classes remotely unless physically unable to do so.

Return to School Protocol

Upon being sent home due to higher than normal temperature, the person in question must self-quarantine for 14 days. Additionally, they must have been free of fever without medication (less than 100.4°F) for no less than 72 hours (3 days) before returning to Campus.

Alternatively a person could return after 72 hours free of fever without medication and proof of a negative test result for Covid-19 dated after their being sent home.

Anyone returning from quarantine must follow all the same safety protocols, as before their quarantine.

Travel Guidelines

St. Rita requires you follow the City of Chicago and State of Illinois guidelines regarding out of state and out of country travel of students and household members. This includes any and all self-quarantine requirements.

Personal Protection Equipment (PPE)

Face Coverings/Masks

Face coverings/masks are required by all students, faculty, staff and visitors. Students who cannot wear a mask for health reasons will need to clear this with the Dean's office or attend class via remote learning.

Approved, student masks can be purchased in the Mustang Store.

Visitors may use their own masks as long as they are not offensive and provide adequate protection. This also includes disposable types.

Hand Sanitizer

Washing is the preferred method of cleaning and sanitizing hands. Hand sanitizer is less effective, but can be used when washing is not possible. The sanitizer must contain as least 60% alcohol as per IDPH and ISBE requirements. The sanitizer St. Rita is using is a 75% alcohol product.

Hand Sanitizer will be provided at the designated entry points and in classrooms.

Apply one squirt per hand, rub hands together, between fingers, on back of hands etc. allow to air dry. Do not use towels to dry hands.

Gloves

Gloves are required:

During food preparation

During serving of food

By janitorial staff handling trash

By janitorial staff performing cleaning, sanitizing & disinfecting

Face Shields

Face shields are not required. They can be used in addition to, but are not a substitute for a mask. A face shield may be used without a mask only when it is necessary to see the face and only with more than adequate social distancing.

Cleaning, Sanitizing & Disinfecting

St. Rita has always striven to maintain a clean safe environment. With the recent health concerns we are stepping up our efforts to include not only cleaning and sanitizing, but also disinfecting.

During the course of the day our staff will be using disinfectant on frequently touched items, like doorknobs and handrails. Hand sanitizer (75% alcohol) will be provided at entry points, as well as in classrooms.

Nightly cleaning will include sanitizing and disinfecting measures in our classrooms, labs, restrooms, hallways etc.

Contact Tracing Form

	DATE:/
	TIME:
NAME	
WHAT FORM OF TRANSPORTATION DID YOU USE TO GET HERE? (Check one)	
St. Rita Mini-Bus Bus Number:	
CTA BUS ROUTE NO	
PERSONAL TRANSPORTATION (my car)	
CAR POOL (drove / rode in with someone)	
LIST WHO ELSE WAS IN THE VEHICLE	
To the best of your knowledge list the people you have been in contact v may have been:	vith in the past 24 hours and where you
	
	
This form will be held in strict confidence, securely in the Dean's office. T inform those listed that they have been in contact with a possible Covidto the local health department upon formal request.	
This information is true to the best of my knowledge (sign here)	
Date:	<i>J</i>

Excessive Temperature Log

DATE	TIME	NAME	TEMPERATURE SCANNED	NOTES
//	::	NAIVIE	°F	NOTES
				
//	:		°F	
//	:		°F	
//	:		°F	
//	:		°F	
//	:		°F	
//	:		°F	
//	:		°F	
//	:		°F	
	:		°F	

This form will be held in strict confidence, securely in the Dean's office. The information will only be used as record of who failed our temperature scanning protocol. Additionally it may be provided to the local health department upon formal request.

Revision Log

REV.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
1.0	7/20/2020	First issue released
2.0	7/30/2020	a) Revision log added, also note added to end of Introduction section
		b) Transportation section – quantity description changed
		c) Employees Arriving at School section – added note to see HR about other issues
		d) Passing in Hallways and Stairways section – the direction of travel has changed, was up east stairway and down west stairway
		e) Lunch section – routing to dining hall has changed due to stairway direction change
		f) Added - E-Learning Expectations page
3.0	8/14/20	Added section on Teacher Workrooms & Lounges
		Added sub section to Kitchen about deliveries
		PPE section – changed note about masks
		Students Arrival at School Section – removed ID scanning step
		Added the following sections, Extracurricular Gatherings, Athletics, After School McCarthy Center Usage