

Dear SFX School Parents,

Sept. 2, 2021

The Facilities Team and School Staff at SFX have been working hard to keep the Education Building safe since we reopened in August. Our sanitization protocols outlined here help reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission via the air and by touch. We were very successful with keeping our students and staff healthy last school year by following these protocols. These procedures are not meant to take the place of the vigilance that all who use the Building must exercise, including social distancing, wearing of masks, frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer.

**With respect to ventilation, some examples of protocols are:**

**For classrooms:**

- Two classroom windows will be opened, no more than four inches before students arrive.
- Classroom doors will be left open as much as possible during the day.
- Classroom doors will remain open overnight. Hallway fire doors will be closed overnight.
- Fresh air will be introduced to the building throughout the time students are in session and for several hours after dismissal as follows:
  1. On the first and second floors, courtyard windows are open to allow fresh air to circulate.
  2. On the third floor and lower level, a commercial air handling system was installed to facilitate fresh air movement and fresh air intake.

**For lunch:** the Joyce Hall windows are open from 8am-4pm, weather permitting. The room is heated by air handling units which provide fresh air movement.

**For bathrooms:** windows remain slightly opened for ventilation, but lowered enough for privacy.

**With respect to sanitization of surfaces, some examples of protocols are:**

**For classrooms and hallways:**

- Student desks and chairs, door handles, light switches, chalk ledges and cabinet handles are sanitized with the electrostatic sprayer before classes start each day. The same is performed on high touch surfaces in hallways (handrails and panic bars).
- To restrict access to classrooms as much as possible, sanitization DURING the day is limited to the students and teachers.

**Joyce Hall** is sanitized with the electrostatic sprayer before the first lunch period. Lunchroom desks and chairs are sprayed with cleaner /disinfectant in the morning, and desks are sprayed and wiped after EACH of the four lunch periods.

**For bathrooms,** student restroom touch surfaces are sanitized with cleaner/disinfectant mid-day. They are cleaned by our cleaning service at night, and with the electrostatic sprayer in the morning before students arrive.

***A note about the electrostatic sprayer:*** The school purchased this sanitization equipment in August 2020. Electrostatic spraying has drawn increased interest through the public health emergency because of the need to disinfect large indoor spaces (e.g., schools) or areas with many surfaces. Unlike conventional spraying methods, electrostatic sprayers apply a positive charge to liquid disinfectants as they pass through the nozzle. The positively charged disinfectant is attracted to negatively charged surfaces, which allows for efficient coating of hard nonporous surfaces. As the charged disinfectant is attracted to the surface, it wraps itself around the object, evenly covering the surfaces of the object. The EPA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently released guidance to help facility operators properly clean and disinfect spaces. The EPA has compiled a list of disinfectant products that can be used against COVID-19. The products used at St Francis are on the EPA list.

**We need your help!**

Please remind your student to maintain spacing, wear their mask, wash hands and use hand sanitizer EVERY DAY while at school, and whenever possible when outside of your home. Thank you for your help in preventing a major outbreak of COVID in our school.

Wishing you continued good health,

Frank Roccasalva, Facility Manager

Sharon Garcia, Principal