

# Evangelical School

## Plan for the Start of the School Year

August 2021

Evangelical School has made plans for the return of students to our building. Using the guidance provided to us by the Illinois State Board of Education in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Public Health, the following safety precautions will be followed:

- All students and staff will be required to wear face masks while inside the school.
- Visitors to the school will be extremely limited.
- Classrooms will be organized to space students three feet apart.
- Classrooms will be cleaned and disinfected daily. Emphasis will be placed on high touch surfaces and common areas. Restrooms will be cleaned multiple times throughout the day.
- Students will be asked to bring water bottles, labeled with the student's name. Water bottle filling stations will be available.

### **PPE (Face Coverings and Masks)**

State guidelines require that people, *including teachers, staff, and students*, wear face coverings in all school buildings, at all times. Face coverings help prevent people who have COVID-19 from spreading the virus to others.

- Masks/face coverings must be worn upon entering Evangelical School.
- A mask/face covering can include disposable masks, cloth masks, or surgical type masks.
- A mask/face covering must cover the nose and mouth completely. The covering should fit snugly but comfortably against the sides of the face and be secured with ties or ear loops to hold it in place.
- Any masks/face coverings that incorporate valves to facilitate easy exhaling, neck gaiters, mesh masks, or masks with openings, holes, visible gaps in the design or materials, or vents are not sufficient face coverings because they allow droplets to be released from the mask.
- Masks/face coverings which make a political statement, reference beer or alcohol, or with inappropriate slogans may not be worn.
- Masks are to be fresh and clean each morning, so we encourage families to purchase multiple face masks to allow for time to wash and sterilize masks that have already been worn. We suggest that a clean mask be kept in the student's backpack. We will NOT have masks available in the event a student soils his/her mask and doesn't have an extra one.
- Face coverings are not required for outdoor activities, as long as individuals maintain social distancing. Whenever possible, students will maintain a distance of 3 feet apart from one another.
- Not wearing or refusing to wear a face covering (unless a physician's note regarding inability to wear a face covering is on file in the school office) is considered a school policy violation and will be handled accordingly.

## **Schedule for School Day and School Calendar**

### **Before School Care**

Before School Care will be available for our students beginning at 7:00 a.m. Before School Care will be provided in Heggemeier Hall. Drop off will be at the lower atrium door #9. There is a \$3.00 per day charge for Before School Care. While in Heggemeier Hall, students will be seated 3 feet apart.

### **School Day**

This year students can begin arriving at 8:30 a.m. but must be in the classroom ready to learn by 8:45. The students in K and 1st grade will dismiss at 3:00, and students in 2nd - 8th grade will dismiss at 3:15. Please see the information in the This & That that was sent out last week for details regarding arrival and dismissal.

- Older students with a younger sibling dismissing at the earlier time will be dismissed with the younger sibling.

### **After School Care**

After School Care will be available for students until 6:00 p.m. beginning at 3:00 p.m. in Heggemeier Hall. When picking up, parents should go to door #9. There is a \$7.00 per day charge for students in After School Care.

### **Social Distancing**

Classrooms will be organized to space students 3 feet apart when possible.

### **Building Procedures**

Once inside the building, students in K through 5th grade will go directly to their classrooms. Students in middle school will make a brief stop to their lockers to put away and/or retrieve items necessary for their morning classes.

### **Classroom Procedures**

We will have additional hand sanitizing stations throughout the building as well as in each classroom. Teachers will build in time for hand hygiene and/or schedule hand hygiene breaks upon exiting and returning to the classroom. Most rooms are equipped with a sink, soap, and paper towels to allow students to wash their hands in the classroom. Rooms will be furnished with additional hygiene supplies.

Middle school students will switch classrooms.

### **Playground Procedures**

Face masks are not required for outdoor activities as long as students are practicing reasonable social distancing. Playground equipment will be sanitized each day.

### **Restroom and Drinking Fountain Procedures**

Restroom breaks will be scheduled by class regularly throughout the day, and students will be escorted by the teacher whenever possible to help maintain social distancing and ensure proper hand hygiene. Handwashing is mandatory before students return to their classrooms.

Drinking fountains will be cleaned and sanitized periodically throughout the day. Some of our drinking fountains will be equipped with no-touch water bottle filling stations. Children will not be able to drink directly from a drinking fountain. Students are encouraged to bring their own labeled refillable water bottle which can be refilled with the no-touch water bottle dispenser.

### **Lunch Procedures**

Students will eat lunch in Heggemeier Hall. Hand hygiene will be performed prior to and after eating lunch. Since face coverings will be removed while eating, special attention will be given to social distancing. Tables will be cleaned and sanitized between lunch periods.

### **Worship Procedures**

Students in K-5th grade will attend worship in the sanctuary on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m., and students in middle school will attend worship in the sanctuary on Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m.

### **Special Classes**

Students in K-5th grade will have library, music, PE, and religion. Students in middle school will have computer, library, PE, and religion.

### **Extracurricular Activities and Clubs**

We are planning for the return of sports and other after school student activities.

### **School Events**

All parent and family events normally held at the school are suspended until further notice. Meetings with teachers will take place via Zoom (or another agreed upon platform) at either the teacher's request or the parents' request.

### **Visitors**

Visitors to our building will be extremely limited. Anyone needing to drop something off, may do so by bringing it to the school office door. An office staff member will obtain the item and deliver it to the appropriate destination. If a parent/guardian or designated person comes to pick a student up, they need to come to the main entrance and request the student. An office staff member will bring the child to the door.

### **School Pictures**

Individual school pictures are scheduled to take place as usual during the school year.

### **Distance/Virtual Learning**

Virtual learning is a tool that can assist students with an extended illness.

### **Symptoms of Coronavirus**

- Fever or chills

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms.

**Decision Tree for Symptomatic Individuals Pre-K, K-12 Schools and Daycare Programs**

<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/IDPH-COVID19-Exclusion-Decison-Tree.pdf>