



2 April 2020

Dear Families of Siena Catholic Schools of Racine,

On behalf of our teachers, support staff, principals, and system leadership please know that we recognize and appreciate the many complexities you face as you support your family while also monitoring and supporting your child(ren)'s learning. Our initial days of remote learning found success because of the outstanding creativity of our teachers and the collaboration between our staff, our school leaders, and you as parents.

We entered into remote learning with the belief that students have a right to learn. In spite of our current situation, our teachers and leaders felt an obligation to continue to do something to support learning during this time away. We knew it wouldn't be perfect on the first day but we wanted to try. We also entered into remote learning with the full expectation that we would make adjustments after living and learning what was and was not working during our initial seven days. Thank you to all who reached out and shared thoughts and ideas as we implemented our first seven days of remote learning prior to Spring Break. Your feedback, along with feedback from our teachers, principals, and other schools in the Archdiocese, has been invaluable in informing some key adjustments to be implemented upon our return to learning on Monday, April 6.

At St. Catherine's (7th-12th grade) we are making only one substantive adjustment. Starting on April 6 we will split our 8-period schedules into two days of instruction. On the first day (A-Day) students will receive lessons from their 1st-4th period classes. On the second day (B-Day) students will receive lessons from their 5th-8th period classes. We will alternate A-Days and B-Days each day of instruction for the foreseeable future.

At our elementary campuses we are making a few changes to our plan that we would like to outline::

- Core academic lessons will be shared by 4 p.m. on the day PRIOR to the learning day.
- Evidence of learning will be due by 8 a.m. the day AFTER the learning day.

What this means is that Tuesday's lessons will be shared by 4 p.m. on Monday, and will be due by 8 a.m. Wednesday morning.

At the PreK-5th grade level, we will share lessons for Reading, Writing, and Math each of the first four (three, if a shortened week) days of the week. On the last learning day of the week, we will share lessons in Science, Social Studies, and Religion.

At the middle school level, we will switch to an A/B-Day structure much like the high school. On A-Days lessons will be assigned in Reading, Science, and Religion and on B-Days lessons will be shared for Language Arts, Math, and Social Studies.

For all grade levels weekly lessons in Art, Music, and Phy Ed will be sent by noon on the first learning day of the week and will be due by 3 p.m. of the last learning day of the week.

These adjustments have been made with the intent to better balance the workload and expectations placed on our students and in mindfulness of the new realities that so many of our families are facing. We do recognize that some of our changes may add some complexity so we created calendars that we have shared with you to help you keep track of lessons and due dates.

It is our hope to be back in school on April 27, however, we will continue to follow guidance shared by the Racine County Health Department and by Governor Evers. If changes in our state require additional changes in our plans we will communicate these to you as quickly as is possible.

Please know that your students and your families are in our prayers each and every day. We are blessed by your partnership and are working to support your child's learning in the best ways that we can. Thank you for all you give!

Best Regards,

Todd Willems, Chief Academic Officer
Siena Catholic Schools of Racine