



SIENA
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OF RACINE
FAITH FORWARD EDUCATION

2020-21

RETURN TO SCHOOL



SIENA MISSION & VISION

Mission: Siena Catholic Schools of Racine ignites a spirit of excellence in faith, knowledge, and service, inspiring students to be who God created them to be.

Vision: Rooted in Christ's teachings, our graduates are prepared to be successful leaders in college, career, community, and the Church.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Ensure that decisions for the return of students and staff:



Reflect
our
mission



Protect
the safety
and
wellbeing
of all



Promote
high quality
teaching
and learning



Promote
dialogue
and
engagement



Ensure
equitable
and
consistent
practice



Reflect
excellence,
innovation,
and
adaptability



BELIEFS ABOUT LEARNING

- We believe students learn best in person, in community, with teachers.
- We believe schools play a critical role in supporting the development of the whole child, not just academic achievement.
- We believe we can create the conditions that allow for our students and staff to return safely to school.



BELIEFS ABOUT LEARNING

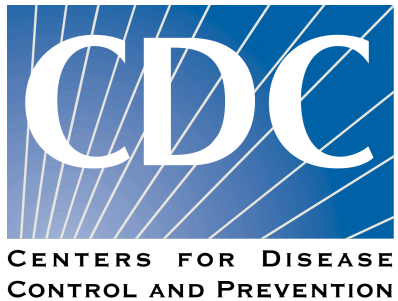
- We believe families want and need a choice about what is best for their children.
- We believe it will take everyone in our Siena community working together to make learning effective and safe for all.
- We believe that we can pivot to virtual instruction as needed if conditions or requirements change.



PLANNING TEAM & RESOURCES



In order to guide our decision-making, Siena assembled five teams of educators, parents, community members and medical experts to guide our decision making.



We followed the guidance of the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#), [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#), and the [Racine Health Department](#) to implement best practices, policies, and protocols for re-opening our schools.



COVID-19 ASSUMPTIONS

- COVID-19 is a novel virus and conditions require ongoing monitoring.
- The risk of transmission can be reduced through our actions, but not eliminated.
- The science and proven data continues to evolve and change. Local, state and national recommendations will likely be updated accordingly.
- Short term closures of schools remain a possibility until a vaccine is widely used.
- Communication, training, and collaboration are critical components to a successful return to school.



COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported, ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- 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



RETURN TO SCHOOL PRIORITIES

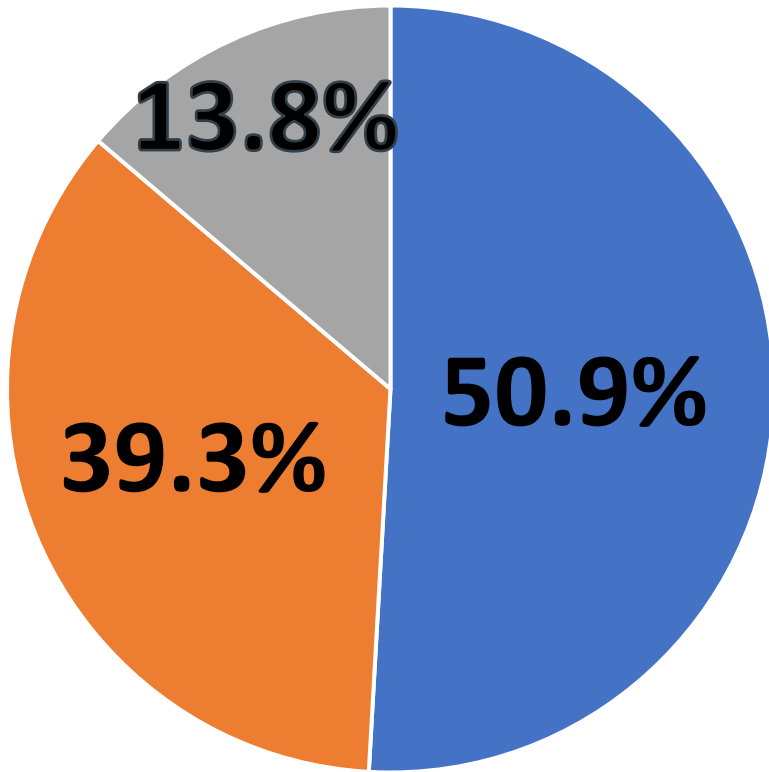
- **Staff professional development:** training on Google Classroom, Schoology, virtual tools, high quality instruction and assessment strategies, social emotional wellness.
- **Operations:** food service and transportation, walking patterns and floor markings, designated entrances and exits, visitor policies.
- **Facilities:** inventory of classroom space, furniture and equipment needs, health/isolation room, screens, signage, and cleaning protocols.
- **Orientation:** mask and PPE usage, handwashing protocols, CDC protocols, screening and symptom identification, sick leave policies.
- **Back to school events/traditions:** virtual meetings for staff, parents and students, communication updates, equipment pick up, electronic forms.



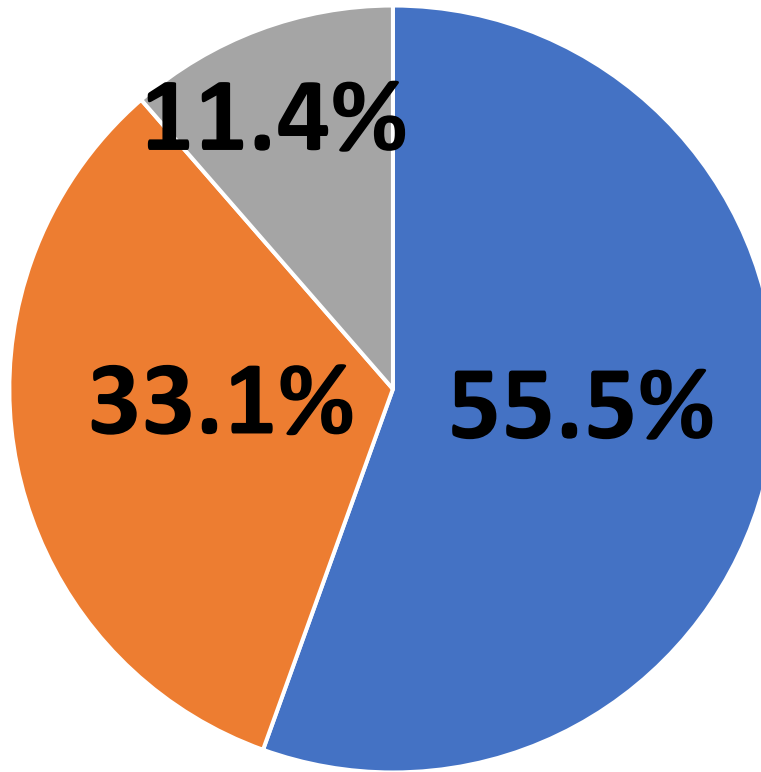
SURVEY SNAPSHOTS

Preference For Learning/Working:

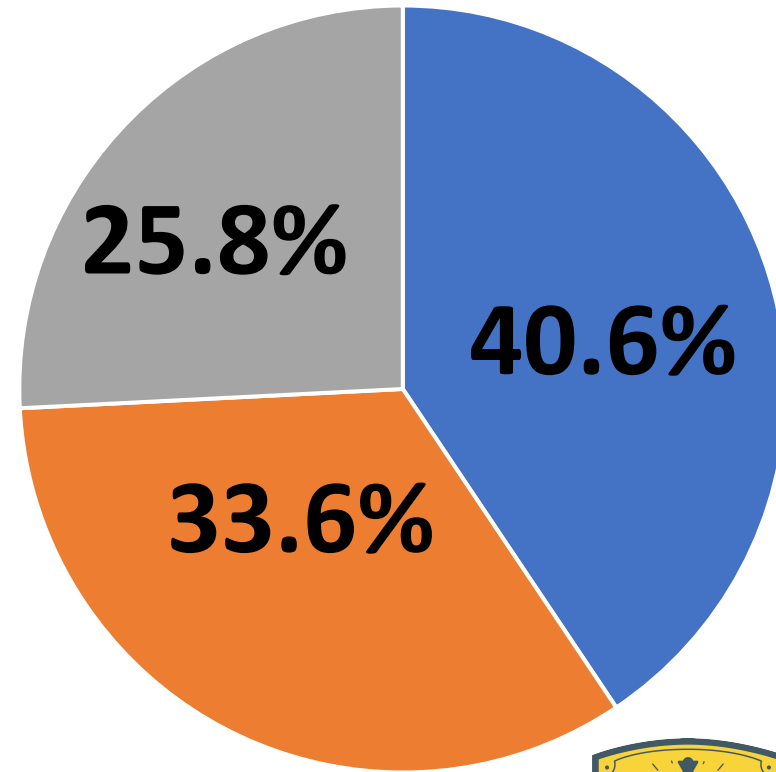
Parents/Guardians



Students



Faculty/Staff



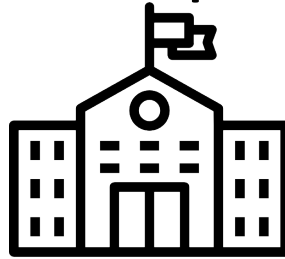
 School  Home  Other



LEARNING OPTIONS

Parents will be asked to commit to one of these two options for the first quarter (nine weeks)

LEARNING FROM SCHOOL



- Students return to school for in person learning 5 days per week.
- Students will follow their typical schedule with some modifications.
- Masks required for students and staff.
- Daily health screening and symptom monitoring will occur upon entrance.
- Physical distancing protocols will be followed.

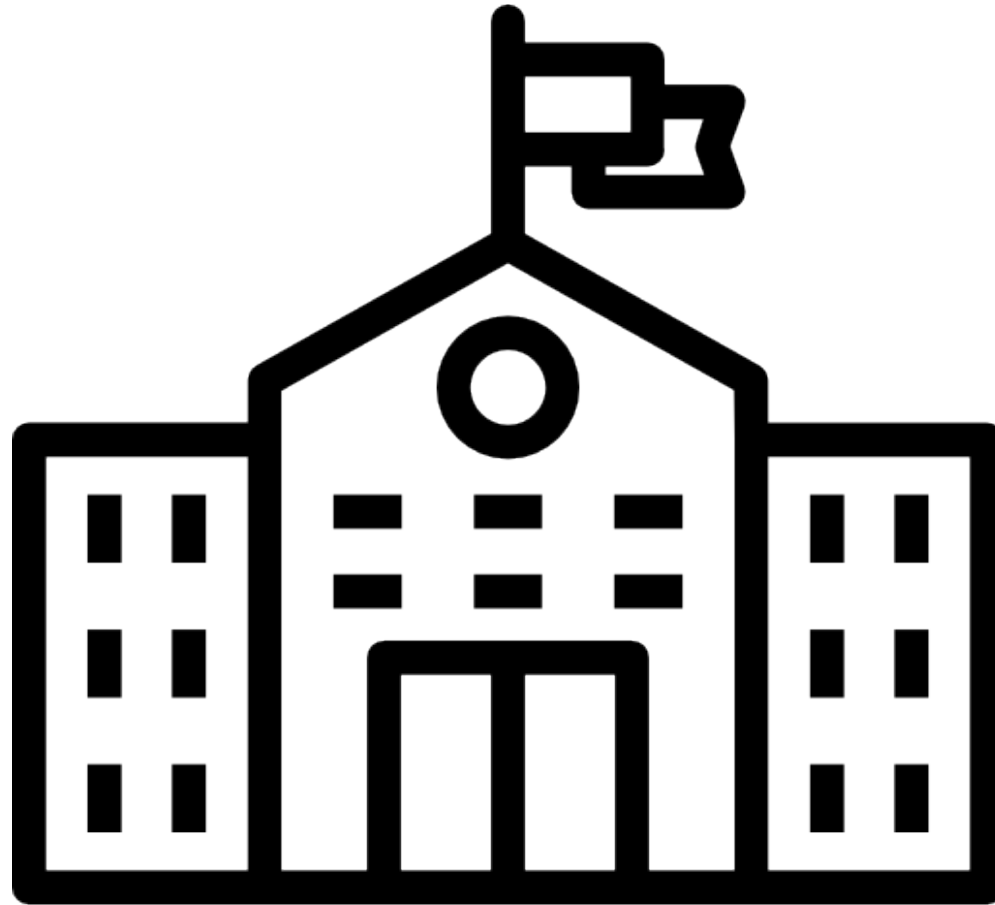
LEARNING FROM HOME



- Synchronous teaching and learning.
- Teachers will live stream instruction.
- Online instruction will follow the students regular schedule with some modifications.
- Students must attend class virtually and attendance will be taken.



LEARNING FROM SCHOOL



HEALTH & SAFETY

- Face mask requirement for staff and students, with exceptions for our youngest learners and those with documented special needs.
- Symptom screening with temperatures taken at school.
- Hand hygiene with extra hand washing and sanitizing.
- Social distancing with classroom desks and work spaces 3-6' apart to the extent possible.
- Use of outdoors and large spaces to increase social distancing.
- Use of health/isolation rooms for sick students.



SCREENING

- All families, students and staff are expected to self screen daily for symptoms before arriving at school.
- Students will be screened for temperature upon arrival as needed when symptoms appear.
- Students and staff with a fever, cough, or flu-like symptoms are to remain at home and contact the school office or their supervisor.
- Screening expectations are subject to change based on health department requirements.



FACE MASK PROTOCOL

- All students, staff, and visitors must wear a face mask while indoors in accordance with current state law and local health requirements.
- Students and families will be expected to provide clean face coverings and they should have your child's initials on them.
- Masks must be appropriate for school and may not contain foul language, inappropriate images, controversial patterns/sayings. Principal has the discretion to determine what is/is not appropriate.
- If a student comes to school without a mask, or their mask is deemed inappropriate, a disposable mask will be provided to the student.
- Students under the age of 5 are not required to wear a mask, but it is recommended if they choose.
- Face mask policy is subject to change; additional information will be provided.



TRANSPORTATION

- All students will be required to wear a mask while on the bus.
- Students will have assigned seats in alternating rows.
- Bus pick up locations will follow social distancing and have limited number of students.
- Busses will be filled from back to front as students enter.



SCHOOL MEALS

- Breakfast will be “Grab and Go” and eaten in the classrooms at all levels.
- Lunch will be served by staff using social distancing.
- Face masks will be worn until student is seated and physically distant.
- Additional lunch periods or spaces will be used to reduce numbers.
- Self service and ala carte will be temporarily suspended.
- Only water bottle-filling stations will be available, so students should bring a water bottle in lieu of drinking directly from a fountain.



PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- Classroom spacing and arrangement of desks for maximum distance.
- Desks facing the front of the room.
- Designated teacher-only spaces in the classrooms.
- Assigned seating in the classroom (this is needed for contact tracing).
- Adapting activities, locations, and delivery methods for courses such as visual arts, performing arts, etc., to maximize distance.
- Reducing and eliminating shared classroom materials whenever possible.
- Increased use of outdoor space for various classes and activities as weather allows.



LEARNING FROM HOME



SYNCHRONOUS LEARNING

- Unlike the Spring, synchronous learning does not give students the option of logging in at varying hours and completing the work. Synchronous work requires students to log in at home for the duration of the school day, fully participating in class.
- While synchronous learning allows the students at home to participate and ask questions in real-time, teachers will also be available to answer any questions after the school day is over. All teachers will have office hours.
- In the event that a class, group, or entire school needs to quarantine by order of the health department, all students will temporarily learn from home.



INSTRUCTIONAL DAY

- Students (grades K3-3):
 - If learning from home, students K3-3 will have a half-day of synchronous instruction and half-day of working from home. Synchronous learning will focus on the critical subjects of religion, literacy, and math. Students at home will need to log in and be in front of their devices for the first part of the day.
 - At-home activities will be provided.
- Students (grades 4-12):
 - If learning from home, students will need to log in at home and be in front of their devices for the duration of the school day.
- Teachers will live stream instruction.
- Online instruction will follow the students regular schedule with some modifications.
- Students must attend class virtually and attendance will be taken.



SYNCHRONOUS SCHEDULE

TEACHER EXPECTATIONS

- Daily synchronous lessons: class time will be split between instruction (presentation, explanation, etc.), application (guided practice, formative input, small group, etc.), and independent learning.
- Attendance taken at the start of the day for grade schools and every class period for St. Catherine's 8–12.
- Homework/independent practice assigned through Schoology or Google Classroom.
- Communication to parents through PowerSchool and Class Dojo



COVID PROTOCOLS

- Siena will work closely with the health department regarding confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- Communication will be sent confirming a case in a classroom/group/team of a positive COVID diagnosis.
- Specific individuals will not be identified due to privacy.
- If a student or employee is living with someone who has COVID-19 or is quarantined because of COVID-19, the student or employee in the household should also stay home for a minimum of 10 calendar days.



VISITOR POLICY

- Non-essential visitors and volunteers will not be allowed to enter the building.
- Parents/guardians may only enter a school building in the event of an emergency.
- Visitors are expected to self screen for symptoms. Those with any symptoms are not permitted to enter a school building.
- All visitors must wear a face mask.



ATHLETICS & EXTRACURRICULARS

- High school athletics will follow the requirements of the WIAA and the health department.
- Grade school athletics have been cancelled for fall in accordance with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.
- Activities and special events may be modified or removed per health department requirements for social distancing and group gatherings.
- Parent night, back to school events, and conferences will be virtual during the first quarter.
- Field trips are restricted until further notice.



KEY DATES

August 3: Phase III Return To Work

(Siena-level employees, principals, school secretaries)

August 12-13: new teacher in-service

August 17-19: SCHS teacher in-service

August 20-21: on-site teacher in-service

August 24-26: K-8 teacher in-service

August 24-25: K-8 tech pickup for Learning from Home

(formerly Back To School night)



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

August 24: St. Catherine's

August 27: K-8 schools



RESOURCES

- [American Academy of Pediatrics](#)
- [Center for Disease Control & Prevention](#) (CDC)
- [City of Racine Health Department](#)
- [Central Racine Health Department](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction](#) (DPI)
- [Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association](#) (WIAA)
- [Archdiocese of Milwaukee Office for Schools](#)





SIENA

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OF RACINE

FAITH FORWARD EDUCATION