



Subject: Siena Virtual Learning Update: 12.10.20

Hello everyone,

I hope that you and your family continue to remain healthy! Once again, thank you for your patience as we continue to navigate the legal challenges surrounding the City of Racine Public Health Department's closure order. Your continued support of your child's learning during these last weeks of virtual instruction has truly buoyed us!

Based on conversations with legal counsel, it is unlikely that we will get a response before Christmas break on the contempt motion filed with the Wisconsin Supreme Court. As such, the five schools impacted by the closure order -- John Paul II Academy, Our Lady of Grace Academy, St. Catherine's High School, St. Joseph Catholic School, and St. Lucy Catholic School -- will remain virtual at least through the end of December. While it is our hope to return to in-person learning on January 4, we will follow the law and remain virtual through January 15 unless a legal decision is made to reverse the current order.

In addition to the details below, I also wanted to share an update made in accordance with the new guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Anyone named as a close contact of a COVID-positive person will now be required to quarantine for 10 days, shortened from the original 14 days. The City of Racine Public Health Department and the Central Racine County Health Department are in support of this shortened quarantine period while continuing to monitor for symptoms.

1. Again, regardless of any potential changes to the closure order, the five schools impacted by the City of Racine Public Health Department's order (JPIIA, OLOGA, SCHS, St. Joe's, St. Lucy's) will be FULLY VIRTUAL December 14-22.
2. Unless the order changes, these five schools will be required to be virtual through January 15. Reminder: January 18 is a professional development day for all faculty.
3. St. Rita will remain open for in-person teaching/learning as they are not under the jurisdiction of the City of Racine Public Health Department.
4. If any changes are made to amend the current health department order, we will give families and schools a minimum of two business days to switch back to in-person. Again, any decisions about returning to in-person teaching/learning will be addressed as conditions change and data is available.
5. Food service changes: meals for anyone who needs them will still be available on Mondays and Wednesdays ONLY from 12-12:30 at St. Cat's, outside of Door 5. While we are limiting the days that food is distributed, families will receive multiple breakfasts and lunches during pickup. **On Monday, December 21, families will receive a week's worth of meals. Meal service will resume on January 4.**

I understand there is a strong desire from many parents and staff to return to in-person learning as soon as possible. We appreciate your patience and support as we work to return to in-person learning when the law allows us to do so. We will continue to keep you updated as we receive additional information.

Blessings in Christ,

Brenda White

