



Dear AMS Parents/Guardians and Students,

I begin this newsletter by saying that I hope it finds you and your family safe and healthy. While we have heard these words in some form many times lately, I'm sure the meaning may be different from person to person. We all have been impacted differently since we closed our doors back in March.

Much of our planning over these past few months has centered around bringing our students back to school in an environment that is safe and healthy. That planning has involved many challenges and numerous changes as we have tried to hit the "moving target" that is COVID-19. We are confident in the plan that we will incorporate on August 26, our first day of school. At the same time, we have learned in our planning, that we must be flexible and willing to adapt.

As you have heard, Aquinas Middle School will be offering 2 options to start the school year and the details of each option are as follows:

Face to Face Model

- All students will attend school 5 days a week.
- Parents should use the daily COVID checklist prior to coming to school each day.
- Students will be required to wear masks daily with the exception of lunch and designated mask breaks.

Virtual Model (Virtual Only)

- Virtual learning will be done at home everyday, but the student may be required to check in during their actual class time. Expectations may change from teacher to teacher daily. Despite being at home, a student could be required to attend every one of their classes virtually that day. This may be done via Google Chat, Zoom or other platforms.

Other Items

- Mass will be held weekly with social distancing rules in mind, it also may be done virtually. More details will come once we have met with our new priest, Father Aaron Becker.
- We will not be allowing locker use early on, but that will be evaluated regularly. Because student's will stay in their cohort classroom most of the day, they will not have a lot of reason to be carrying heavy supplies with them.
- Chartwell's will be open with a limited menu to allow all students to get through the line safely with social distancing in place. Students will only be allowed to go through the line once. Money for accounts can be added in Skyward or put in the mailbox on the Chartwell's Kitchen Door.
- **The school doors will not be open until 7:30AM each day.** Students may enter through the Cass St. or Cameron St. doors.

- Students are required to immediately leave the building at the end of the school day unless they have a scheduled reason to remain in the building.
- All doors will be accessible to exit the building at the end of the day.
- **OPEN HOUSE** will be virtual. There will be a link on the website to join us on August 19th at 5:30! The link will be live or recorded, we aren't quite sure of our capabilities at this point!

In returning to the building, it must be understood that the health and safety of every student, teacher and staff is the priority. ***You must stay home if you have symptoms outside your normal baseline.*** This starts at home and must be monitored closely. If any student exhibits symptoms at school **they will be sent home.** Masks **will** be required by all, at all times (masks must be school appropriate). These are just some of the expectations necessary if we are to make this work. It will require selflessness, humility, and kindness from all who choose to walk through the door.

We hope you are as excited to return as we are. From the conversations that we have had with students and families, we truly believe that to be the case.

We thank you for your support, patience and understanding through all of this! Between home and school we will all have a role in making this a positive and safe experience for the students. We are looking forward to a great 2020-2021 school year!

Go Blugolds!

Mr. Schreiner and Mrs. Ring

Attached: Athletics Start-up Announcement, Bussing Information, Parent Questions, ACS Building Safety for COVID, Lunch Menu

ATHLETICS

Aquinas Middle School will begin the 2020-2021 fall athletic season according to the new adjusted start dates. Details regarding the new practice schedules and specifics of regular-season competition, will be released soon.

The health, safety, and physical and mental well-being of our student-athletes and coaches will continue to be our top priority.

IMPORTANT BUSSING INFORMATION

Aquinas/Luther Bus Service Registration

Aquinas Catholic Schools will continue to partner with Luther High School for the 2020-2021 school year to serve students who do not have access to public school transportation. These

buses serve students from Winona, Holmen, Tomah, Lewiston, Genoa and points between. The buses are chartered through Go Riteway (608-881-6370).

The form should be completed for each student. Three bus riders should have three forms completed!

Please go to our [website](#) for information on how to sign up for bussing.

The information will help provide efficient routes and to make contacts if changes or problems occur during the school year. Information collected will be used only for bus transportation purposes.

La Crosse School District Student busing Registration

Registration for 2020/2021 Private School transportation is now available. All requests made by July 15th are guaranteed transportation on the first day of school. Please register by clicking [HERE](#)

Onalaska School District Student busing Registration

The School District of Onalaska is permitted to provide transportation to students attending Aquinas Schools in the following capacity.

St. Patrick Elementary School: Onalaska may provide service that aligns with our routes; students who live within the District may ride provided that they live greater than 2 miles from the school or live in an area deemed hazardous for walking per DPI.

Aquinas Middle and High School: Onalaska may provide service from and to St Patrick Elementary for any Aquinas MS/HS student. They do not provide neighborhood pickup or drop off for Aquinas MS/HS students.

Onalaska is not permitted to transport students attending other schools on our routes, i.e.

Blessed Sacrament.

Onalaska requires a Bus Agreement for all riders, without exception, at the beginning of every school year. The 2020-2021 School Year form is live and can be found [HERE](#):

The deadline for Bus Agreements is July 20; routing after that may not be done for the start of the new term. Families will be provided Bus Passes to verify ridership.

PARENT QUESTIONS

What will happen when a student/teacher stays home sick?

Please stay home if you are sick. We are required to report a positive COVID test to the La Crosse County Health Department.

A faculty member with COVID-19 would be quarantined. If the teacher has been within 6 feet of a student for more than 15 minutes in duration, then that student would need to stay home. We would

ask that they be tested for COVID-19. If able, the teacher will teach from home and link in with students.

Likewise if a student comes down with COVID-19, they would be quarantined and those who have been within 6 feet of them for a duration of more than 15 minutes would be sent home and asked to do a COVID-19 test. Students can do virtual learning from home.

Who will be told? How will the parents find out?

The Health Department needs to know and if your child was within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more, of someone who tested positive. Parents will be notified via email and/or a phone call if their child has symptoms at school or has been near someone who tested positive.

What has been done to the school ventilation system (HVAC) to prep for this school year?

Ventilation is checked and the air filters are changed every six months. Outside air is circulated into the building throughout the school through the ventilation system and the duct work has been opened up to recirculate maximum amounts of air. The music suite has dehumidifiers and most rooms have windows that open as well.

What are the procedures for those who become ill at school?

1. The high school and middle school have an isolation room with plastic walls that can be sprayed down after use. The room will be sanitized after any use and an ultraviolet light that kills germs will be placed in the room overnight to sterilize the room.
2. Emergency Contacts will be notified to pick up the student.

What are the guidelines for who will be told about someone who had symptoms around their child?

1. Isolation room for the sick student with plastic screen separators.
2. Family or emergency contact is notified to pick student up
3. If a student tests positive for COVID-19, notifications will go out per the LaCrosse Health Department and Contact Tracing will determine who will need to be quarantined and for how long..

Is there a point at which we start taking temperatures at the door?

Parents need to screen their students prior to their entrance onto the school grounds. This may be our biggest defense mechanism. Anything temperature above 100.4 is considered a fever. Students who stay home ill can check in online virtually with their teachers. Please remember to mark your child out in Skyward or call the main office each day they are out.

How many students out would constitute a switch to virtual learning?

If we start to have a significant increase in the numbers of cases in our school(s) and the health department has concerns about the number of cases, then we would go to a virtual delivery method.

Bussing

City of La Crosse, GoRite Way will provide bussing for the Catholic School Students. Families need to register on the public school website in the Private School section to get bussing to schools. ***After one week, they will evaluate usage.***

Do my kids have to wear a mask? Yes, students 5K -12, and staff will wear masks at all times. If there is a medical reason that a student or staff cannot wear a mask, a medical note from the students medical doctor will need to be on file.

ACS Building Safety for COVID

It is the position of Aquinas Catholic Schools, that education will always carry an inherent risk from infectious disease. It is a part of a career in education and cannot be completely avoided. However, risk reduction through awareness and personal protective practices is achievable. In an effort to reduce risk, due diligence from all parties, including faculty, staff, and students is needed.

DO NOT ENTER the building if you are experiencing the following symptoms:

- Fever
- Cough
- Congestion/Runny Nose
- Sore Throat
- Shortness of Breath
- Diarrhea
- Nausea or Vomiting
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Myalgia
- Poor Feeding/Poor Appetite

These symptoms should be outside of a person's normal baseline.

Students who arrive at school with these symptoms will be placed in an Isolation Room until picked up by a parent/guardian. The School-based COVID-19 Exclusion Plan will be followed in these situations.

If you feel sick or have been exposed to COVID-19 contact the school and STAY HOME.

Exposed students must stay engaged and continue virtual learning. Communicate regularly with your teachers.

While in the building, faculty, staff and students must wear a mask.

If you cannot procure a mask due to financial or other constraints, please contact school administration.

Cloth masks should be cleaned daily.

Students and staff must enter through the Cass or Cameron St. doors. All building doors will be accessible at the end of the day.

Students are not to congregate before and after class unless you are 6 feet apart!. Physical distancing is a must.

Teachers will be visible in the hallways during passing time. Keep them moving...single file.

Maintain 6 ft of distance between individuals when possible.

A seating chart must be kept for all classes and study halls. Chairs will be marked if it is a chair that cannot be used.

Closely monitor the amount of students leaving your classrooms and study halls. Hold students accountable on class start times...get them into the rooms and in their desks.

Students must leave the building at the end of the day unless they have a scheduled reason to be in the building.

All individuals must wash or sanitize their hands as often as possible. It should also be a priority to wash and/or sanitize after physical contact with others.

Minimize use of shared equipment at all times. If students own personal equipment it should only be used by that individual.

Use time between classes or during a prep to clean touch spots.

Shared equipment must be cleaned prior to and after use by each student.

In addition to extra cleaning implemented by the ACS custodial staff, faculty and students will take responsibility to clean when possible.

High touch point areas must be cleaned as often as possible.

High touch areas include: Light switches, desks, tables and chairs (back, seats, arm rests), computer keyboards, touch screens, doorknobs, drawer/cabinet handles, faucet handles, and remote controls.

All classrooms will be sprayed down each night as well as bathrooms and other high touch areas.

Aquinas Schools Food For Thought



Please keep your students lunch account at a positive balance. Please contact me if you need to make arrangements for payment.

Don't forget that Breakfast is the most important meal of the day! If you have study hall and would like to pre-order your breakfast please let us know. If you have some suggestions or ideas to share with us, we welcome any input from staff, students and parents. If you have special requests regarding meal needs or questions regarding the Commons, please stop by and visit.

Chartwells Staff

August & September 2020

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
24	25	26	27	28
		Mac & Cheese or Chili Bread Bowl Tots Fruit	Chicken or Fish Sandwich Chips Fruit	Grilled Cheese Sandwich Tri-Tater Fruit
31	1	2	3	4
Chicken Wraps Chips Fruit	Lasagna Garlic Toast Green Beans	Biscuits & Gravy Sausage Apple Sauce	Pizza Breadstick Fruit	Meatball Subs Noodles Corn
7	8	9	10	11
No School	Orange Chicken Rice Pineapple	Pizza Burger Fries Cheese Cake	Taco Hotdish Brownie Fruit	Spaghetti & Meat Sauce Garlic Toast Corn
14	15	16	17	18
Loaded Nachos Churro Peaches	Hamburgers Chips Fruit	Pizza Hotdish Garlic Toast Fruit	Swedish Meatballs Mashed Potatoes Gravy Corn	Pizza Breadstick Fruit
21	22	23	24	25
Chicken Fajita Rice Fruit	Orange Chicken Rice Pineapple	Soft Shell Taco Churro Fruit	Corn Dogs French Fries Apple Sauce	No School
28	29	30		
Popcorn Chicken Buttered Noodles Fruit	Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potatoes Gravy Corn	Pizza Breadstick Fruit		

Cafeteria Menu

Large Slice of Pizza	\$1.79
Hamburger	\$1.89
Cheeseburger	\$1.99
Double Cheeseburger	\$2.59
Bacon Cheeseburger	\$2.79
Soft Taco	\$1.89
Cheese Curds	\$2.99
Mini Corn Dogs	\$2.19
French Fries (reg)	\$2.19
Chicken Sandwich	\$2.39
Spicy Chicken Sandwich	\$2.49
Grilled Cheese	\$1.49
Chicken Nuggets	\$2.29
Walking Taco	\$2.09
Value Meal w/ Milk	\$3.09
Classic Entrée Only	\$2.19

À la Carte:

Vegetable-Daily	\$1.09
Potato/Starch	\$1.09
Soup	\$1.89
Smiley/Waffle/Curly Fry	\$2.59
Garlic Cheese Bread	\$1.89
Vegetable Cup	\$2.19
Fruit Cup	\$2.39
Garden Salad	\$2.39

Beverages

Milk	\$.10
20 oz. Dasani	\$1.79
20 oz. Dasani Zone	\$2.19
10 oz. Minute Maid	\$1.89
12 oz. PowerAde	\$1.89
12 oz. G-2	\$1.89
20 oz. Spbe	\$2.39
20 oz. Aquafina Splash	\$1.79

New Boxed Lunch \$3.69