

August 8, 2022

Dear Catholic School Community Members,

I pray this correspondence finds you well and enjoying your summer. As we prepare for a new school year, I am taking this opportunity to provide you with information regarding the state of public health protocols in the Catholic schools of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles (ADLA).

Though COVID-19 remains active in our community, we have made significant advancements in managing the spread of the virus. From prevention to vaccinations to treatments, we have reached a point in the pandemic where our many of our daily routines have returned to normal. As a result, public health authorities have eliminated the number of strict regulations and restrictions for TK-12 schools, including universal indoor masking. This is welcome progress.

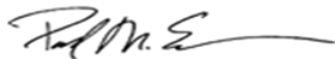
While public health orders do not require many of the significant mandates of the past, several public health order protocols will continue to be observed to ensure the spread of COVID-19 remains low and to prevent extended school absences of students and staff. For example, individuals who test positive for COVID-19 will continue to be required to isolate at home for five (5) days and can return to school upon testing negative. Though not required, we strongly suggest that you test your child for COVID-19 prior to resuming school. This will help reduce disruption of your child's learning and that of their classmates and teachers.

The staff of our Catholic schools have done an extraordinary job in balancing public health orders while ensuring your child receives the care, formation and education they deserve. This has come with a great deal of responsibility and added stress that been difficult to sustain. We ask that you honor the public health protocols our schools are still required to follow, along with any elevated protocols individual schools have implemented due to local transmission risks.

This school year comes with great optimism and excitement. Not since the start of the 2019 school year will we reopen with the ability to fully deliver the Catholic school experience to our students. Though much has been missed during the pandemic, we look ahead to a school year filled with joy, learning and community to advance the formation of the children we serve.

Our prayers are with you as you enjoy the remainder of your summer and we look forward to welcoming you back to school soon!

Yours in Christ,



Paul M. Escala
Superintendent of Schools