



St. Maria Goretti Catholic High School

2020-2021

Back-to-School Plan

07/21/20

Submitted by:

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TO CHALLENGE, CULTIVATE, AND EMPOWER THE STUDENTS OF ST. MARIA GORETTI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL TO GROW INTO SERVANT LEADERS WHO WILL CREATE A CULTURE OF MISSION AND MINISTRY TO IMPACT THE GREATER COMMUNITY.

Introduction

As the beginning of the school year quickly approaches, we wanted to reach out to you with our plan as we prepare to bring students back onto the Goretti campus. Our COVID-19 task force, with the help of our school board and the Archdiocese of Baltimore, are focusing on three main areas: Health and Safety, Connectedness of Children & Adults, and Continuity of Learning & Assessment. There are several components to each of these areas which will allow us to take care of our students, families, and staff holistically. Throughout this summary you will find more detailed information for all three components. Under the present guidelines, this will allow us to safely welcome our students and staff back to Goretti.

Goals

1. **Health and Safety**
2. **Connectedness of Children and Adults**
3. **Continuity of Learning and Assessment**

Highlights

We will all wear masks to protect each other. Everyone, upon entry into our building, will wear masks. Facemasks will now be a required part of the uniform policy. Students are encouraged to bring an additional mask to school each day in case of an emergency.

We will practice social distancing. Spaces, movement and activities will be coordinated so all members of our community practice social distancing. This will take place through some innovative ways of using both of our campuses: By using both campuses and staggering student schedules we will be able to adhere to the current safety guidelines.



We will dramatically limit the number of visitors on campus. We will meet virtually with parents via Zoom. Visitors will not be allowed to drop off items that students have forgotten at home. This is a necessary cultural shift, but be assured that we will work to maintain communication and connection so our school and family partnership continues to thrive.

Students will not use lockers. Students will be responsible for all personal belongings (textbooks, chromebooks, etc) and we recommend the use of backpacks so they can have access to these items throughout the day.



Daily health screenings. We will have a screening process for faculty, staff, and students to assist in determining if someone should stay home. If a student needs to quarantine and the student is able to complete coursework, they will be able to do so through our distance learning option.

Innovation

Gael Learning Center

In our learning environment, SMGCHS will utilize the gym as the “Gael Learning Center”. In the Gael Learning Center we will have multiple tables setup and staff this area with SMGCHS teachers and staff who will be able to meet with students, academically engage, and continue the social-emotional component that is so valuable to the overall well-being of adolescents. Upperclassmen will arrive at 9:00 AM to begin the school day. If students do not have transportation to the Gael Learning Center, we will transport them from the academic campus using SMGCHS vehicles. Students will be dismissed at 12:30 PM to return to the academic building for lunch and continued academic development until dismissal that will take place at 2:00 PM. Those students who do not have personal transportation home at 2:00 PM, may remain on campus until normal dismissal time (3:00 PM). Once students leave campus they may not return until the next academic day.



SMGCHS Weekly Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p style="text-align: center;">A Academic Building (8:00-3:00) Freshman, Sophomores, and Cohort A</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">B Academic Building (8:00-3:00) Freshman, Sophomores, and Cohort B</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">C Academic Building (9:00-2:15) Cohort A & B</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">A Academic Building (8:00-3:00) Freshman, Sophomores, and Cohort A</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">B Academic Building (8:00-3:00) Freshman, Sophomores, and Cohort B</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Gael Learning Center (9:00-12:30) Cohort B Asynchronous</p> <p>Students return to the academic campus from 12:45-2:00.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Gael Learning Center (9:00-12:30) Cohort A Asynchronous</p> <p>Students return to the academic campus from 12:45-2:00.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">At Home Live Learning (9:00-2:15) Freshman & Sophomores Synchronous</p> <p>1: 9:00-9:30 2: 9:35-10:05 Break (10 mins) 3: 10:15-10:45 4: 10:50-11:20 Lunch 11:25-11:55 5: 12:00-12:30 6: 12:35-1:05 Break (5 mins) 7: 1:10-1:40 8: 1:45-2:15</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Gael Learning Center (9:00-12:30) Cohort B Asynchronous</p> <p>Students return to the academic campus from 12:45-2:00.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Gael Learning Center (9:00-12:30) Cohort A Asynchronous</p> <p>Students return to the academic campus from 12:45-2:00.</p>

Things to know about this schedule:

As noted above, this schedule allows for social distancing and requires limited capacity for in-person learning.

Freshmen and Sophomore students:

Will attend all 4 days (A & B) in person at our academic building and will do one day virtually.

Will receive synchronous (live) instruction on their virtual learning day (C) from home (9:00AM-2:15PM)

Junior and Senior students:

Juniors and Seniors will attend the academic building on either A or B days in person (8:00AM-3:00PM).

Cohort A will be Juniors and Seniors with last names (A-K).

Cohort B will be Juniors and Seniors with last names (L-Z).

Juniors and Seniors will report the other 2 days to the Gael Learning Center (GLC) for online learning, tutoring, and assessments. If students cannot drive, transportation will be provided through the use of Goretto vehicles from the academic building to the Gael Learning Center (9:00AM-12:30).

Students at the Gael Learning Center will report to the academic campus for lunch and academic enrichment, college counseling, spiritual activities, and more (12:45-2:00).

On a C day both Cohort A & B will be at the academic building for in-person instruction (9:00-2:15).



Modifications due to Covid-19

Until an effective Covid-19 vaccine is available we will work to prevent the spread of the virus and to contain any outbreak of the virus in our school community. Saint Maria Goretti Catholic High School will take numerous actions to ensure the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff during the pandemic. As we considered these changes, we paid attention to making changes that will benefit the school during and post the pandemic period.

Health and Safety

Facemasks

All students will be required to wear facemasks on the bus, in hallways, and in classrooms.

Isolation Room

A quarantine room is being created for any students who exhibit symptoms associated with COVID-19.

Social Distancing

Students will be required to maintain social distancing while in classrooms and will have a limited number of students in each classroom physically.

Bathrooms

Bathroom use will be monitored, only allowing a limited number of students at a time throughout the day.

Lockers

Students will not be allowed to use lockers. They will need to carry all of their belongings in a backpack with them throughout the day.

Student Materials

Students will not be allowed to share materials.

Hand Sanitizer

Students will sanitize their hands as they enter the building.

All classrooms will also have hand sanitizer if the students feel it is necessary.

Cleaning/Sanitizing/Disinfecting

Cleaning/Sanitizing/Disinfecting will be taking place throughout the day and the buildings will be cleaned every evening as well.

School Mass

School liturgies and assemblies will be livestreamed.

Lunch

If the weather conditions allow, students will be able to use our outdoor courtyard for lunch.

A third lunch shift has been created for our Gael Learning Center Students.

Students may have to eat in designated classrooms if weather conditions do not allow students to eat outside.

Lunch that is provided by Goretti will be pre-portioned, self-contained, with single serve utensils and individual condiments provided.

Entrance

Students, Faculty, & Staff will only be allowed to use the front doors for entry into the building.

Exits

Students, Faculty, & Staff will only be allowed to exit the building through the two side doors closest to the student parking lot.

Visitors

Visitors to the school building will be restricted.

Connectedness of Children & Adults

Goretti Family

Schools play a vital role in the social-emotional development of children and adolescents. We truly believe in the mantra of "The Goretti Family."

Connectivity of All

The importance of stressing connectivity between students to other students, students to faculty, faculty to families, and administration to all is a high priority.

Spiritual Connectivity

The spiritual connectivity of our Catholic faith will also be stressed, by incorporating this into our new schedule.

Social-Emotional Well-Being

The Guidance Department will also be available to all students whether in person or remotely.

Shadow Days

During the Fall, 2020 semester we will discontinue all shadow visits of prospective 8th graders. Parent/student tours will be by appointment only and will be conducted with the proper health protocol.

Continuity of Learning & Assessment

Authentic Assessments

Through the use of both the Academic Building and the Gael Learning Center, we can provide proctored assessments to students and make sure they can demonstrate a deep understanding of our college-prep curriculum.

Blended Learning

We will create a more blended learning environment for students that incorporates enhanced technology, but still focusing on the foundational skills that create engaged learners that are prepared for college and life.

Virtual Learning

Would Virtual Learning ONLY be the best option for your student?

You have a choice, and we respect whatever decision you make for your student. Please contact Dr. Storch at storch@goretti.org if you would like your student to attend classes virtually for the first semester or the year. There are no additional costs if you choose distance learning only for your child, and every student will continue to be a vital member of our Goretti family.

This is a summary of the initiatives we plan on incorporating into our “new normal” as we move forward this Fall and beyond. We hope this information helps you understand that we are being proactive, diligent, and holistic as we create the 2020-2021 learning experience for the students of Goretti. Thank you for your ongoing support and choosing to be a member of the Goretti Family!

We Are Goretti!

(click on this link to see what our in-person education can offer)

Mr. Christopher Cosentino, President

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