

# Blessed Sacrament School



*Creating an educated community to serve Christ and one another with integrity and respect.*

Dear Parents,

At this time, we'd like to provide an update regarding efforts to increase our level of preparedness at BSS in response to concerns related to coronavirus.

We are in receipt of daily (sometimes hourly) emails from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Virginia Health Department, Alexandria City Health Department, and the Office of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Arlington. We are committed to keeping you apprised of our planning efforts and ask for your help!

We have focused our efforts in the following areas:

- Establish and maintain communication with the CDC, Virginia Health Department, and Alexandria City Health Department.**  
The CDC states "schools are not expected to make decisions about dismissal or cancelling events on their own" nor to screen students or staff to determine a COVID-19 diagnosis. Our responsibility lies in providing data about the number of students and staff who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and the number of students from the same classroom. We are in communication with the CDC, Virginia Health Department, and Alexandria Health Department. If a case of COVID-19 develops in our community, we will follow recommendations from these organizations.
- Monitor absenteeism patterns.**  
Our clinic continues to monitor absences. We ask parents to **report all absences to the school office/clinic**, particularly if it is a respiratory illness like the common cold or flu which shares symptoms with COVID-19 such as fever, cough, shortness of breath.
- Report travel plans.**  
The Diocese of Arlington has advised all schools to ask parents/guardians, faculty, and staff to **notify the school of travel plans** in an effort to continue to keep communities healthy. The countries of concern change daily and informing us of your travel plans will help us to keep our community safe.
- Develop and communicate a tentative plan for how school closures will work.**  
It is not recommended that schools close as a "preventative" measure. This can disrupt normal routines, the educational process, and parents. Local health departments ask schools to focus on contingency plans in the event of an outbreak and a necessary closure with the goal of continuity of instruction for our students. Our teachers are actively preparing distance learning options. With this in mind, you will be asked to **respond to a brief survey** to determine whether all families in our BSS community have internet access and a computer within their home so that we can leverage technology to share educational content in the event of a required closure. We are attaching a short [survey](#); and we ask that you complete and return this form to the oldest or only child's teacher no later than Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Clean routinely.**  
Our school continues to work closely with the maintenance crews to ensure that the entire school, including high-touch surfaces, is routinely and thoroughly cleaned with products that are approved by the EPA for use in situations like this.

*Counting Every Blessing,*

Mrs. Valerie A. Garcia

## Blessed Sacrament School Computer / Internet Access Survey

*Please return to your child's homeroom teacher by Thursday, March 12, 2020.*

Blessed Sacrament School's Crisis Management Team is updating our emergency closure plan to address ways to facilitate learning in the event of a possible school closure due to the coronavirus. If conditions require our school to be closed for a period of time, we are considering ways to utilize technology to continue your child's learning while at home.

Please answer the following brief survey to indicate whether your child(ren) has access to the Internet and the use of a computer while at home. Please note that our eighth grade students would continue to have access to their Chromebooks at home during the time period in which the school is closed.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Child's(ren) Name/Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Would your child(ren) in grades K-8 have access to an Internet connection while at home?

Yes       No

Would your K-7 child(ren) have access to a computer while at home to complete class assignments?

Yes       No       I do not have a child in grades K-7.

Additional Comments:

## Encuesta de Acceso a la Computadora/Internet

Por favor regrese este formulario con la maestra del salon de su hijo/a para el jueves, 12 de marzo de 2020.

El equipo de manejo de crisis de la Escuela de Blessed Sacrament esta actualizando su plan sobre maneras de facilitar el aprendizaje en el evento de un posible cierre de urgencia debido al coronavirus. Si las condiciones require que nuestra escuela cierre por un periodo de tiempo, estamos considerando maneras en las cual pobremos utilizar la tecnologia para continuar el aprendizaje de su hijo/a en casa.

Por favor conteste las siguientes preguntas para indicar si sus hijo/as tiene acceso al Internet y si tienen uso de una computadora mientras estan en casa. Por favor note que nuestros estudiantes de octavo grado continuaran a tener acceso a sus Chromebooks en casa durante el periodo de tiempo que la escuela este cerrada.

Su nombre completo: \_\_\_\_\_

Nombre de sus hijo/as y grado: \_\_\_\_\_

Su hijo/a en grados K-8 tendra acceso ala conexion de internet mientras estan en casa?

Si                       No

Su hijo/a en grados K-7 tendra acceso a una computadora mientras estan en casa para completar trabajos de clase?

Si                       No                       No tengo hijo/as en grados K-7

Comentarios Adicionales: