

Holy Childhood Inspiring Lifelong Success

SCHOOL NEWS

September 2020

School Program Director News

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Upcoming Events

October 12 –
Columbus Day, No
School

November 11 –
Veterans Day, No
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November 25-27 –
Thanksgiving Break,
No School

Welcome to September 2020. In the words of Dr. Seuss, “Being crazy isn’t enough” but this year takes the cake.

What with the pandemic, going fully remote during last spring, Summer School being fully remote, Jen Singer leaving and my returning, this has been one crazy six months.

I want to talk about what we are doing at school so that it limits any confusion, I hope. The planning that occurred over the summer with the staff was to look at setting the school up for September so that we can keep our students and the staff healthy. This meant reducing the number of people in the building at any one time. This required two cohorts of students and their accompanying staff. Districts were contacted to set up the transportation. Letters went out to parents indicating their child’s Cohort and which teacher they would have and what day they would attend school. Per the expected consequence, not all of the districts followed through. Some of them decided to not open the same day as we did and refused to transport our students. In reality, the first day went very smoothly and we are anticipating that the whole week will go smoothly with the expected glitches in transportation.

The rest of this edition will outline or reflect some of the policies that have been put in place because of the pandemic.

On an added personal note, I am very happy to be back with all of your children and the staff at Holy Childhood.

If, at any time you need to contact me, my contact information is as follows: (585) 359-3710 ext. 127 or email, dhalpern@holychildhood.org

Visitors to School

Holy Childhood is discouraging visitors to the school, at this time. If you must come to school to drop off a child, or for another reason, you may need to go through our Raptor Visitor system. This system uses your driver’s license to assist in printing off a “visitor pass” that can be adhered to your shirt or blouse. To the left of the main entrance is a computer with an infrared scanner. By placing the back of your driver’s license to the scanner, it will read your information and display it on the screen. You will then have several questions to answer regarding your exposure to COVID-19. Once that is completed, you must get your temperature taken by our automatic temperature screener. Once completed, you are allowed to enter the building proper.

If you do not have your license, you will need to talk to the receptionist and they will enter the information into the system.

If you are just dropping off medication for your child, talk to the receptionist and they will call the nurse or the classroom. No need to get a pass.

On-Line Learning (Known as Remote Learning) Technology Headaches



A very wise man once said, "Technology is great, until you try to use it". Holy Childhood's teachers and clinicians use several different online systems in its efforts to instruct its students. Google Classroom is used by most teachers as their basic online system to do their instruction. Teachers and clinicians may use WebEx to deliver a meeting or a therapy. Both, teachers and clinicians might also use Google Meet as their video conferencing system. Our teachers also have a license to use the UNIQUE Curriculum which is also online. On top of all those systems, we also send packets of work to supplement all of the instruction.

We have ordered Chromebooks for each student in the school. Unfortunately, they have not been delivered to us, yet. When we finally get them, our IT department will set them up for your child's use.

Each family should have received a packet late in August with all of the links and passwords for the systems being used. If you are having trouble with any of the systems that are being used, please call the main office and we will try and resolve the issue.

Parent Association Meeting



Usually, I have information about the Parent Association at this point in the Newsletter. Unfortunately, the Association is on pause until we know more about the infection rate in the community and at school. More information will follow with more details.

Going Forward From Here



In my head, I have two thoughts that are going round and round. The first thought is that we will be having students in the building 5 days a week by the end of January 2021. The other thought is that we will all be in full remote by October 15th. To help my own sanity and continue to move forward with things that I can control, we at school will be monitoring the ever-changing conditions of the State, the surrounding counties and our school. Every month we will analyze the infection rates, absences (both students and staff), and what the Governor is saying. Using this data, we will make plans about what is next for the school. We will communicate this analysis to parents frequently. With any luck, my first thought will become reality. If we end up changing our mode of instruction, additional days of in-person instruction or any other change that affects the students and their family, we will get that information to you quickly, I promise.

