



PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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November 18, 2020

Dear Parents,

Providence Catholic will pivot to full remote learning for the week after the Thanksgiving break, Monday, November 30th – Friday, December 4th. The Administration made this decision after deliberating with local healthcare providers and taking into consideration the following information:

- The positivity rate for our county is 19.7%
- The number of daily infections is rising, as is the death rate
- Available hospital beds in our area for COVID treatment are decreasing, and may be at the point of unavailable
- Our school quarantine numbers are up, and the number of families participating in full remote learning has increased
- College students will be returning home for Thanksgiving, and families may not significantly alter their traditional plans to celebrate with their extended family

Given these overwhelming indicators, the school Administration believes it is in the best interest of safety for our students, faculty, staff and Providence Family at large that we pivot to full remote learning for that week.

The Reopening Page on our website contains updated documents and reminders for you to review and/or print. Please click on the link to find the following:

1. Updated December Calendar
2. Remote Learning Bell Schedule
(Please note the time changes to periods 4 & 6 Monday-Friday.)
3. Parents as Partners
4. Student Responsibilities When Online

<https://www.providencethecatholic.org/re-opening-2020-21/>

We want to take this opportunity to remind you of the following:

- Even though students will be attending remotely, these are full school days.
- We will be following the weekly schedule of CCBBA. The December calendar and bell schedule are available on the Reopening Page of our website. Again, please note the time changes to periods 4 & 6 Monday-Friday.
- Student absences should not be reported to the teacher. If your student is unable to attend class for any reason at any point of the day, you are responsible for contacting the Dean's Office at (815) 717-3130.
- For several reasons, including contact tracing, we ask that you continue to notify PCHS if your student is currently quarantining and/or has tested positive for COVID-19. These calls should be directed to our Dean's Office at (815) 717-3130.
- If a student is not present online during the school day, he/she will not be allowed to participate in athletic and extra-curricular activities on that day.

Our student expectations have not changed and are also included in this communication. Below are some highlights:

- Students are expected to attend all scheduled online classes per the published daily schedule, or they will be marked absent.
- Students should be sitting at a table, desk or workstation during all classes. It is NOT acceptable that students are in bed, driving, at work or relaxing on a couch during class time.
- Students should dress appropriately.

Teachers will have daily office hours and be available for student assistance each school day. Teacher Office Hour schedules will be communicated prior to our remote week.

At this time, we are planning to return to the blended instructional model we have been following all semester on Monday, December 7th. If COVID-19 indicators cause us to reconsider this return date, we will let you know.

We hope that you and your family have a happy and healthy Thanksgiving!
Fr. Merk & Dr. Harper