



Catholic Schools Office

Diocese of Baton Rouge
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Continuous Service Since 1845

March 18, 2022

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your continued partnership and support of Catholic education, especially over the past two years. Catholic schools in the Diocese of Baton Rouge were successful in holding in-person classes throughout the pandemic, even when challenged by necessary medical protocols that made it seem impossible to continue classes on campus. Your commitment to providing quality education for children enrolled in our schools has been a tremendous gift!

Though the rate of student infection when returning to school in August 2021 was high, the diocese was responsive since that time by updating policies during the year as situations changed. Now, as we enter the final quarter of the school year, we are happy to announce another change in policy that reflects the current low rate of infection. Beginning Monday, March 21, parochial and diocesan schools are free to resume pre-pandemic practices for students at school sites within administrative policies at each location.

Please understand that principals will need time to successfully organize campus protocols for an orderly change in procedures. Communication on specific updates, therefore, will come directly from the school administration. Also, students who ride public school buses will have to abide by those requirements because our schools do not have authority over bus services that state law requires public-school systems to provide.

The diocese is grateful to parents for their vigilance in following health and safety guidance and to staff for their daily commitment in providing in-person education for young people over the past two years. Such partnership helped to provide an exceptional ministry of educational excellence for students throughout the diocese as we enjoyed being formed in learning communities that *Evangelize Hearts, Educate Minds, Encourage Talent, and Embrace the Future.*

Blessings,

Dr. Melanie B. Palmisano
Superintendent of Schools



Nationally Accredited School District

