

October 30, 2020

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

We want to thank our St. Francis Xavier School families for helping us keep our students, teachers, and staff members safe during these unprecedented times. As we hear in the news, our COVID - 19 numbers in Medina County are on the increase. However, the Governor has indicated that schools are not a significant source of spread. When you look at our COVID - 19 and quarantine numbers at St. Francis Xavier School, they are **extremely** small compared to the rest of the county. This is due to the planning, implementation, and collaboration in the creation of our Back to School plan. We must remain diligent to keep everyone safe in school and in the community while providing a quality education. It will take all of us to continue to work together. We thank God for you and the wellness we have enjoyed so far. Our goal is to continue to teach face to face for as long as possible and we will remain **OPEN** unless we are told otherwise. If we need to shut down, we will have a remote plan in place.

While Saint Francis Xavier School values our families and supports the opportunities for them to enjoy time together to deepen their bonds, we are concerned about the upcoming holiday time for family travel. Our ultimate goal is to help our families by keeping COVID - 19 out of our building and our school open. This is a good time to remind everyone of the recommendations from the CDC and Ohio Department of Health regarding travel. Please continue to communicate with us to help ensure we are prepared to support your child(ren) when they return. Family trips/vacations require additional safety measures during the pandemic. Everyone has been using an abundance of caution and we greatly appreciate the diligence and care everyone is taking. We continue to truly implore all of our families to respect our entire school family and continue to work together to ensure the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff. We ask you to read the travel guidelines, reflect upon your family's travel plans and adjust as warranted. We are a school community that enjoys the blessings of being together! If you already have travel plans in place and have concerns, please contact Mrs. Beal so we can work them out on a case by case basis. Saint Francis Xavier School administration reserves the right to amend these guidelines as necessary to keep our school family safe.

**St. Francis Xavier School
COVID - 19 TRAVEL Guidelines**

It is our goal to keep our students and staff protected and stay in our classes face to face. The travel policy for COVID-19 for St. Francis Xavier School is outlined below.

As a reminder per the St. Francis Xavier Student Handbook, we require that you notify the school administration in advance of any planned/extended absences. Please also contact your homeroom teacher/academic teacher and our school office.

St. Francis Xavier School has developed the following travel policy after reviewing the travel guidance set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), and the Medina County Health Department.

***At any time, St. Francis Xavier School administration may update, modify, or amend this travel policy related to COVID-19.**

IN THE EVENT THAT A STUDENT IS TRAVELING TO A HIGHER THAN 15% POSITIVITY or becomes a HOT SPOT while visiting (in-country or out of country):

(Also see links included at the end of the document for more information.)

1. We require that the student self-quarantine for fourteen days symptom-free after travel is concluded.
 - a. This may be adjusted based on the quarantine guideline set forth by the CDC, ODH, and/or Medina County Health Department at the time of return from travel.
2. The date for the student's return to in-person instruction will be identified and provided to the student by the administration. The date for return may be adjusted by the administration as necessary to ensure compliance with all school policies and protocols.
3. We encourage all our traveling students to take their books home prior to leaving just in case they are in need of them in case of being quarantined.
4. Students in quarantine must attend and complete all on-line learning requirements. While the teachers will provide online protocols and support for remote learning, it is the student's responsibility (as age-appropriate) to request additional support from teachers as needed.

Please see the links below for information related to travel guidance from federal and local health agencies.

Saint Francis Xavier School follows the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Ohio Department of Health, and the Medina County Health Department directives.

The protocols are:

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

- Please review the CDC International travel advisory for continued updates via the link below.
- Fall 2020, International Travel risk for the majority of the world is still listed as HIGH (dark orange) and is currently NOT RECOMMENDED.
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notice.html>

NATIONAL TRAVEL

- The positivity rate is an indicator of how much COVID-19 there is in a community, and ODH is recommending against travel to those states with high positivity. CDC Travel Information: <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/families-and-individuals/COVID-19-Travel-Advisory/COVID-19-Travel-Advisory>

AFTER TRAVEL PROTOCOLS

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/after-travel-precautions.html>

Thank you for your consideration and continued support of our school.

God Bless!

Fr. Tony Sejba
Pastor

Mrs. Danene Beal
Principal