



BISHOP HENDRICKEN HIGH SCHOOL

Catholic Values Fostering a Tradition of Excellence

UPDATE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

Dear Parents, Faculty, and Students,

After a full month since our return to Full Model instruction, I am inspired by the positive signs that we're nearing closer and closer to normalcy: students together on campus, extracurriculars in full swing, and a stronger commitment than ever to working together.

In returning to the Full Model, we as a community understood the assumed risk: COVID-19 cases would happen, but with everyone doing their part to mitigate impact, they would be manageable. While we have seen an uptick in cases across the student body, we aren't experiencing anything close to the scenarios we faced in the fall. However, these cases do result in an increased volume of quarantines.

Over the course of the year, we've seen over and over again the importance of balancing the whole student experience, – academics, athletics, arts, service, and extracurriculars – and understanding the role this plays in the mental, emotional, and social health of students. This in mind, we have been reassessing our current policies on in-person attendance and extracurricular participation.

Effective beginning Monday, April 26, 2021, students who participate in any extracurricular activity (athletics, arts, clubs, etc.) may choose to attend classes virtually under the following conditions specified below. **Please know that failure to comply with any 1 of these will result in this opportunity being revoked.**

- 1.) Students must maintain the academic eligibility requirements for participating in athletic and extracurricular activities as specified in the 2020/2021 Parent/Student Handbook on pg. 45.
- 2.) Students must attend all classes on Zoom in proper dress code, fully visible with video on, and actively participate. Teachers who encounter students who don't meet these criteria will refer them to their dean.

3.) Students must be in person for all assessments required and communicated by their teachers.

As proven throughout the course of the pandemic, we know there is no replacement for in-person instruction. **Therefore, students and parents should only utilize this updated policy when necessary.**

However, in the classroom and in extracurricular activity, COVID-19 protocol remains 100% unchanged. **If you have any 1 symptom at all, you must stay home and complete a Self-Reporting Form at www.hendricken.com/reopening.** This is, and will remain, the case for ALL extracurricular activities. Colds or allergies are not a valid excuse to attend any activity on campus while symptomatic.

Students have missed out on a lot this past calendar year, especially the facets of the Hendricken experience that make it truly whole. At Bishop Hendricken, our philosophy has always been that students are afforded critical educational and developmental experiences outside of the classroom, too. Our student-centered approach encourages the boys to get involved and work toward the development of the total person: heart, mind, body, and soul. Please know that this policy update is truly aimed at providing students with as much opportunity as possible.

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

God Bless,

Mr. Mark DeCiccio '03

Principal