



September 28, 2020

We are thankful to our parents/guardians, students, faculty and staff for the start of a great year at St. John Lutheran School. We have heard great feedback on how everyone has navigated the beginning of this year. God has definitely blessed the start of the school year.

**On Friday, September 25, Governor Whitmer signed an Executive Order mandating that all students, including K – 5, are required to wear masks in the classroom, and in common areas when it is medically viable, beginning on Monday, October 5. With Governor Whitmer’s executive orders, all schools public and non-public must follow the required protocols.**

We understand that while our 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have already been required to wear masks in classrooms, this is a new change for K – 5 students and it may be a challenge for them. Some good news is that several other Lutheran schools in Michigan have already been requiring all students in K - 8 to wear masks in common areas as well as in the classrooms, due to their local city ordinances. These schools report that the students are doing well with the implementation of this requirement. Also, to help offset the updated mask requirements for K - 5, teachers are being encouraged to provide more outside breaks for K – 5 students, similar to what we are providing already for our middle school students.

We will continue to work through this together. We will continue to provide an outstanding education. We will continue to be together in class. We will continue to meet the needs of our students academically, socially, and most importantly, spiritually. We will continue to share the Good News, so that we all can take to heart the message of 1 Corinthians 15:57-58, “But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”

You are encouraged to ask questions and provide your feedback. Parent/guardian input is truly helpful in order to address concerns and answer questions directly. Thank you for your continuing cooperation and support.

In His name,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Pehlke". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "P" and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Todd Pehlke



Principal