

GROSS CATHOLIC

RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN



The Cougar Family is firmly rooted in the Catholic faith and our Marianist Heritage.

We live by our motto: Dux Esto . . . Be a Leader!





GROSS CATHOLIC

FAITHFUL • COMPASSIONATE • DRIVEN

Return to School Plan

2020 - 2021

Gross Catholic High School has participated in numerous meetings/briefings with state and local health officials, metro-area schools including the Archdiocese of Omaha, statewide leaders, and other officials to work on our plan to return to school as directed by the Catholic Schools Office, the Governor and the Nebraska Department of Education. Through these meetings, we are formulating the Gross Catholic's Return to School Plan for the 2020-21 school year.

Gross Catholic is committed to continue providing a quality, faith based education through these times. We will continue our expectations of learning, celebrating our faith and providing services such as resource and counseling no matter the learning environment. Although it may look different, our teachers will continue to teach, assess and grade as if we are in school. We will continue to provide a faith experience which sets us aside from many of our other local schools. Our Guidance Counselors will continue to provide services for students and their families. Gross Catholic is committed to continuing its partnership with Catholic Charities by providing an additional support system for our students and school community.

This plan will use the anticipated Sarpy/Cass Health Department COVID-19 Risk Dial to inform the district's return to school approach for 2020-21. As the status changes, the district will follow the various approaches. The Sarpy/Cass Health Department COVID-19 Risk Dial reflects the current spread of the virus in Sarpy/Cass County and the resources available to address the health needs of our community members. Our plan will continue to be modified as we work closely with state/local health officials. Gross Catholic will provide updates to families and staff as new information becomes available.

COVID-19 Communication and Updates

Gross Catholic School will utilize a number of means to ensure students, staff and families are informed of changes and updates.

These will include:

- Parent Paws (weekly parent newsletter emailed on Friday afternoons)
- School Messenger (home phone, text and email messaging system)
- School Website (COVID-19 button on the website)
- Email communication
- Social Media platforms

Gross Catholic School COVID-19 Health Protocols for 2020-2021

Student/Employee Health Screening Protocols

1. All parents should screen their children daily before sending them to school.

<https://www.sarpycasshealthdepartment.org/>

2. Any student or staff member experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should stay home, notify the school administration, and then seek medical advice from your primary care physician to determine if COVID-19 testing is needed.

The signs and symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills or repeated shaking with chills
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea and/or gastro-intestinal symptoms

3. Students/staff who have been identified as having direct contact with a person who has tested positive will be notified in accordance with Sarpy/Cass County Health Department guidance.

4. Gross Catholic will utilize the Sarpy/Cass County exclusion, and re-admittance protocols until provided guidance from Sarpy/Cass County Health Department.

COVID-19 Scenarios

Who needs to quarantine?

Anyone who has been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19. This includes people who previously had COVID-19 and people who have taken a serologic (antibody) test and have antibodies to the virus.

What counts as close contact?

1. You were within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for at least 15 minutes
2. You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
3. You had direct physical contact with the person (touched, hugged or kissed them)
4. You shared eating or drinking utensils.
5. They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you

Steps to take

1. Stay home and monitor your health.
 - a. Stay home for 14 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19
 - b. Watch for fever (100.4), cough, shortness of breath or other symptoms (see the symptoms listed above) of COVID-19
 - c. If possible, stay away from others, especially people who are high risk for getting very sick from COVID-19
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>

Scenario 1: Close contact with someone who has COVID-19 and will not have further close contact. Your last day of quarantine is 14 days from the date you had close contact with them.

Scenario 2: Close contact with someone who has COVID-19 - live with the person but can avoid further contact with them. Your last day of quarantine is 14 days from when the person with COVID-19 began home isolation.

Scenario 3: Under quarantine and had additional close contact with someone who has COVID-19. You will have to restart your quarantine from the last day you had close contact with anyone in your house who has COVID-19. Any time a new household member gets sick with COVID-19 and you had close contact, you will need to restart your quarantine.

Scenario 4: Live with someone who has COVID-19 and cannot avoid continued close contact. You should avoid contact with others outside the home while the person is sick, and quarantine for 14 days after the person with COVID-19 meets the criteria to end home isolation.

It is a good reminder to continue to:

1. Social Distance when possible
2. Wash hands
3. Avoid sharing personal items (water bottles, towels, etc.)
4. Wear a mask

Gross Catholic COVID-19 Environmental Services Information

General Cleaning Expectations and Protocols

<i>Category</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Frequency</i>
Workspaces	Classrooms, Offices, Media Center, Commons, Gyms, Health & Conditioning	At the end of each use/daily
Appliances	Microwaves, Coffee Machines	At the end of each lunch/use/daily
Electronic Equipment	Copier Machines, Printers, Shared computer monitors, Telephones, keyboards	At the end of each use/daily
General Used Objects	Door handles, light switches, sinks, water fountains, restrooms, stair handles, etc.	Regularly throughout the day/end of day
Common Areas	Commons, Media Center, Gyms, Health & Conditioning Center	At the end of each use/daily/end of day
Student Desks/Tables	Classrooms	At the start of each class/end of day



Expectations of Gross Catholic High School for students, staff and parents

- Self monitoring is essential. Temperatures WILL NOT be taken at school. Students and staff are asked to check temperatures at home before arriving. Anything over 99.9 is considered a fever. Other potential COVID symptoms are: cough, fatigue, sore throat, difficulty breathing, sudden loss of taste and/or smell and GI symptoms. All staff and students are required to stay home when experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
Visit www.cdc.gov/covid19-symptoms for current and ever changing lists of symptoms.
- If a member of your household has a COVID test result pending, please do not return to school/activities until the results are known. (Please reference COVID Scenarios below)
- All students/staff are required to wear face masks upon entering the school building and throughout the day if social distancing is not possible. Each student is required to have 2 face masks at school. All face coverings must follow dress code expectations and must not contain images or phrases that do not conform to the student code of conduct. (NO BANDANAS)
- Personal items should not be shared (ie. water bottles, towels, books, ect...)
- Clean high touch surfaces often such as counter tops, door knobs and counters as well as desks in between classes.
- Frequent washing of hands and use of hand sanitizer is a must and will be available in every classroom and hallways.
- Visitors and guests will be limited each day.
- Please ensure that your child has everything he/she needs for the day to eliminate items being dropped off and left at the front office.
- Students must bring their own lunch to school until September 28th at which time we will reevaluate the idea of vendors serving lunches again. No vendors or outside food may be dropped off at the office. Microwaves will be available for student use.
- "As needed" medications are strongly discouraged this year (Not including rescue meds and inhalers). If your child is not feeling well, they will be placed in our sick room and the parents will be notified. Parents are asked to pick up your child promptly.
- Early morning drop off - All students will be required to wear a mask when entering the building and remain wearing their mask until allowed to remove it. Social distancing while waiting in the Commons is required. All students are asked to remain in the Commons until the bell rings in the morning, for the start of the school day.
- Pick up - We ask that parents pick up their child promptly at the end of the day and/or activity to prevent gathering while waiting for rides. Students will be expected to wear masks while waiting in the building for their ride at the end of the day.

Handwashing/Hand Sanitizer (click here for CDC recommendations on hand sanitizing)

- Students and staff should sanitize their hands upon entering the building and as they enter and exit individual classrooms throughout the day.
- Gross Catholic will provide hand sanitizer in all classrooms and throughout the building for student, staff and visitors use.
- Students may use their own hand sanitizers provided it meets CDC requirement of 60% alcohol.
- Students will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently throughout the day.

Hallways, Lockers, Restrooms:

- Access to water fountains will be limited to bottle filling stations provided in the Commons and the Health & Conditioning Center.
- Passing periods will be split into 2 passing periods. Students will be assigned to either the A passing period or the B passing period. Students will have 3 minutes to pass between classes. This will cut down on traffic and improve traffic flow.

Classrooms:

- Every classroom will be evaluated by the administration to incorporate physical distancing to the extent possible in the classroom space.
- All seating will be placed as far apart as possible and will be placed in forward facing rows.
- All classrooms and lunches will have assigned seats to use throughout the class period.
- Any common classroom spaces, equipment, or counter tops that are shared will be sanitized, as needed, based upon use.
- Teachers and students will wear face masks at all times in the classrooms.
- Students will sanitize their hands when entering and exiting the classroom using sanitizer provided by Gross Catholic.
- Students will utilize their own school supplies as much as possible.
- The use of shared items will be minimized. If shared items are used, then students will sanitize their hands before and after use and supplies will be cleaned daily.
- Teachers will make modifications to instructional practices to accommodate physical distancing.
- Courses that require increased exhalation such as band, choir, and physical education will utilize specific strategies to address COVID-19 related concerns. Gross Catholic is awaiting final guidance/recommendations from the state before finalizing plans for these classes/programs.

Lunch:

- Gross Catholic has moved to a 3 lunch schedule. Students will go to lunch at the time their class is designated to go.
- Students will be required to bring their own lunches through Sept. 28th at which time the use of vendors will be reevaluated.
- Students will sit 4 to a table and will use assigned seating during each lunch.
- Students will be asked to avoid sharing food.
- Students should only remove face masks while eating.
- Students will be asked to clean their area and chair before leaving the commons.
- Additional sanitation procedures will be implemented when needed.

Expectations of Gross Catholic High School for students, staff and parents (Continued)

Health and Safety Signage and Practices:

- Gross Catholic has placed appropriate signage throughout the school to remind students of appropriate health/hygiene practices and safety measures needed to reduce the risk of spreading and contracting the virus.
- Gross Catholic will promote the use of all recommended practices daily and provide specific training for students and staff at the beginning of the school year to support recommended best practices to keep students/staff safe within the school community.
- Doctor/Dentist or other outside appointments: if medical appointments could be scheduled first thing in the morning or at the end of the day, that would reduce the chance of potential exposure coming from outside the building.

Gross Catholic Educational Plan

At this time Gross Catholic intends to begin school August 11th, in green/yellow Status - meaning students are provided traditional school at full capacity with modifications. The traditional school calendar will be followed with social-distancing guidelines and safety measures in place, and face coverings required for students and staff.

Gross Catholic has three plans in place that we can implement at any time during the school year. Please know these three plans can and will be modified further, if necessary.

1. Full Capacity Learning

All students, faculty and staff will be in school each day. Physical distancing of 6 feet in all classrooms. Masks will be required when entering the school as well as throughout the school day. Classrooms will be disinfected between each class as well as hand sanitizer stations in each classroom. Additional hand sanitizers are located throughout the school in the commons, media center and at both entrances.

2. Hybrid Learning

Each student is divided into 2 hybrid groups (Blue & Orange) according to last name. They are listed on each student's schedule. The Hybrid schedule is from August 17th until Christmas Break. The Hybrid split is Blue : A thru Lee and Orange : Leg thru Z. Please see schedules and notice the rotation of the schedule each week.

3. Remote Learning:

Online learning will be set up in a block schedule format where each teacher will have their students for an hour each class period. We will have an A week which will have odd numbered classes on M/W/F and even numbered classes are on T/TH. Week B would be even classes on M/W/F and odd classes are on T/TH. Please see schedules and notice the rotation of the schedule as each week it will change.



COVID-19 Risk Dial

(Nebraska Department of Education)

Below you will find Gross Catholic's anticipated return to school color guide approach based on our current status of Sarpy/Cass County.

Green	Yellow	Orange	Red
Students will be provided traditional school learning. Gross may modify daily schedules to create a safe learning environment for students and staff.	Students will be provided traditional school learning. Gross may modify daily schedules to create a safe learning environment for students and staff.	Possible reduction of the number of students. Plans for limiting the number of students in the building will be shared upon entry into ORANGE STATUS .	Gross Catholic will be closed with remote learning provided by current teachers. Remote learning plans are under RED STATUS .
Gross Catholic will implement recommended sanitation and safety measures as directed by the Sarpy/Cass County Health Department.	Gross Catholic will implement recommended sanitation and safety measures as directed by the Sarpy/Cass County Health Department.	Gross Catholic will implement recommended sanitation and safety measures as directed by the Sarpy/Cass County Health Department.	All remote students will utilize their personal device to engage in virtual instruction by teachers. Gross Catholic will have adopted apps and Zoom meetings for remote learning.
Face coverings are required for all students, staff and visitors	Face coverings are required for all students, staff and visitors	Face coverings are required for all students, staff and visitors	

Green	Yellow	Orange	Red
Limited visitation may be permitted for parents/visitors. Virtual meetings/parent conferences will be encouraged to reduce the number of parents/visitors enter the school. Visitor logs will be maintained. All visitors will be screened upon arrival. Parents are encouraged to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 and keep students at home as appropriate. Parents should notify the school of any illness with COVID-19 related	Only students and staff should enter the building. All meetings/parent conferences will be virtual or by phone. Any visitors entering the building must have permission from the Administration. Procedures will be in place for curbside drop off and pick up of children. Visitors logs will be maintained.	Only students and staff should enter the building. All meetings/parent conferences will be virtual or by phone. Any visitors entering the building must have permission from the Administration. Procedures will be in place for curbside drop off and pick up of children. Visitors logs will be maintained.	Student related co/extracurricular activities WILL ONLY be permitted as directed by the NSAA and other governing bodies. All activities will follow guidelines outlined by the appropriate governing bodies.
Parents should notify the school of any illness with COVID-19 related symptoms or diagnosis.	Parents should notify the school of any illness with COVID-19 related symptoms or diagnosis.	Parents should notify the school of any illness with COVID-19 related symptoms or diagnosis.	Parents should notify the school of any illness with COVID-19 related symptoms or diagnosis.
Student related co/extracurricular activities will be permitted as directed by the NSAA and other governing bodies. All activities will follow guidelines outlined by the appropriate governing bodies.	Student related co/extracurricular activities will be permitted as directed by the NSAA and other governing bodies. All activities will follow guidelines outlined by the appropriate governing bodies.	Student related co/extracurricular activities will be permitted as directed by the NSAA and other governing bodies. All activities will follow guidelines outlined by the appropriate governing bodies.	Student related co/extracurricular activities will be suspended at this time.

Please know Gross Catholic remains focused on the health and safety of our students, staff, and families. We will continue to be here to help support you any way we can.

