



July 3, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope this email finds you well.

Over these past few months, I've had the opportunity to speak with many of our school students and families, and I look forward to talking with more of you as we continue through the summer months and into the Fall. I understand fully how difficult things have been for each and every one of you, and most certainly for our children. With all that we have been through and will continue to experience in the coming days, weeks and months, please know that the faculty, staff and I are committed to doing everything in our power to listen and respond to the challenges ahead and provide the best and safest possible experience for everyone this upcoming school year.

Part of my personal commitment has been to assemble a team of teachers, staff, and health professionals (specifically our nurse and counselors) dedicated to planning how school will look and feel when everyone returns. Collaboratively, it is our mission to review all of the resources available to us from the Office of Catholic Education, the State of Pennsylvania and the City of Philadelphia and devise a reopening plan that not only has the safety of our children in mind, but that also addresses the physical, emotional, academic and spiritual challenges they have faced due to the distancing and quarantines. It is my sole focus at this time to ensure a smooth and safe transition back to OLPR and the best, individual experience for the children. Please know that your children are number one here at OLPR. They are the heart of our school and are why we do all that we do.

Beginning with this email today, it is our goal to communicate with you at least once a week to update everyone on our plans and to provide any resources that become available to us to help you prepare. In addition, we have added a page to the OLPR website specifically for reopening information. We ask that you please be diligent in checking this page and your email.

The first pieces of information we are sharing today are PDF files of letters from Dr. Andrew McLaughlin, the Secretary for Elementary Education and Bishop Fitzgerald. These letters contain information regarding some guidance for the reopening of Archdiocesan schools for the 2020-2021 school year. Please know that these documents include general guidelines. The individual needs of each school aren't one size fits all, so please be assured that we are utilizing these resources, as well as guidance from health officials at the federal, state and local levels to develop a more detailed plan for OLPR which will be shared as it becomes available.

Visit <http://www.ourladyofportrichmond.com/reopening-plan.html> to view the Reopening Plan page on the OLPR website, and the letters from Dr. Andrew McLaughlin and Bishop Fitzgerald.

In closing, I want to thank each and every one of you for all that you are and all that you do for your children and OLPR. As always, we continue to pray for all of you, and we hope you will continue praying for all of us as well as we prepare for 2020-2021.

God be with you,
Sr. Mary