Memo to: Parents and Guardians Memo from: Sr. Margaret Mancuso July 13, 2020 Re: School Planning



Now that the school year has ended and the holiday weekend has passed, I hope that you are catching your breath a bit and finding a slower pace to your days or weekends.

Thank you, again, for all of your support with distance learning. As a faculty, we could not have done it without your cooperation starting back in March and your faithful support through June. The new and unique way of teaching and learning during the COVID-19 pandemic was a challenge for all.

We continue to hope NYS illness numbers stay low so schools can reopen and we can be back together at Flower City Park in September! At this time, I want to give you a little overview of our planning progress. Once we have the final guidelines from the NYSED, we will have more specifics to share.

## Planning Committees and Areas Addressed

**Core Committee** for the Reopening of Nazareth – three faculty and three administrative staff – keeps an overview of all areas and relates to various subcommittees as needed.

- We have met most weeks since the end of May and have followed the Interim Guidelines for Schools to Reopen from the Capital Region BOCES and the Diocese of Rochester.
- The NYS Education Dept. just released the framework for reopening this week, and we await more specifics guidance at the end of the week.
- > Every school must submit its reopening plans to Albany by July 31.
- > We have subcommittees of faculty looking at room spacing and placement of classes and programs.
- Many of the areas addressed in our planning stages to date:
  - General Measures and Administration includes staffing and human resources
  - Communications
  - Health and Safety includes masks, face shields, gloves, hand sanitizers in rooms and halls, counter, table and desk dividers, air flow, screenings, nurse's room, plans when a child is ill
  - Safe Facilities includes procedures in hallways and stairs, offices, classrooms, cafeteria, gym, bathrooms, water fountains, playground, Specials areas, ECP, cleaning and disinfecting policies
  - Academic Procedures and Curriculum includes arrival, dismissal, schedules, instructional programs, assessments, ECP activities, clubs, training for staff, students and volunteers, technology
  - Wellness includes social-emotional well-being, supporting school transition for children
  - Nutrition breakfast and lunch procedures, compliance with Child Nutrition Program

As we review the NYSED regs and guidelines, we will update as needed. I will keep you posted on Nazareth's planning and ways you may be able to help as the summer progresses.

Let us pray for the health of our children and families, our staff and communities, our country, and world. We keep in mind all those who risk their lives daily to care for all of us and help us meet our basic needs.

Please stay safe and well! Let us know if we can help in any way. God's blessings on you and your family!