



# ALGOMA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

*"Helping Families Make Disciples" since 1981*

## ACS SAFE START PLANS

July 21, 2020

Updated: August 23, 2021

### PHASE 1-4 PLAN

See Phase 5 Plan

### PHASE 5 PLAN

We will be requiring all parents to sign a waiver for each child attending ACS, in which they indicate that they understand that school is an inherently high risk environment. Nothing the school does will ever make ACS 100% safe from the spread of any disease. The waiver absolves ACS of any responsibility should their child contract any infectious disease in school or at a school event. Families who feel that they cannot sign this waiver will have to seek another alternative for educating their child(ren). ACS employees would be required to sign a similar waiver that applies to them.

#### SCHOOL DAY

- Parents would be asked to take their children's temperature before school every day. Any student with a temperature of over 100.4 degrees would not be able to attend school until it abates. (more on this later in the plan)
- All entrances to ACS will display a CDC information poster that ACS is a Mask Recommended Zone. We believe that masks and face shields are a family decision.
- ACS has masks and face shields available for students upon request.
- The Leadership Team's research shows that a face shield combined with an N95 mask will give the wearer excellent protection for themselves. This allows families to choose protection for THEIR family members.
- Busing will be handled the same way. Our bus will be posted with the same "Mask Recommended Zone" as the school (However, as already stated, masks are a family level decision). We will also do our best to practice "social distancing" on the bus as far as we are able to/or as desired by students/families.
- Any student heard ridiculing someone who chooses to wear a mask will face a stiff consequence. On the flip-side, anyone heard chastising a student who is not wearing a mask, will also face that consequence. Each family has the right to determine what they are comfortable doing with no repercussions for that choice (An automatic one day in-school suspension will be the consequence for violating this rule.
- Classrooms will practice social distancing where it is practical. In classes where it isn't possible, teachers will inform students at the beginning of the year that face shields by themselves, or in combination with masks, might be a good idea.....but the level of protection is ALWAYS a family decision.
- If families wish teachers to help them monitor their protection decisions (i.e. they want their child(ren) to wear a mask/face shield, or both) they need to contact the Team Level Administrators: Mr. White (7-12) and Mrs. Ellsworth (PreK-6). ACS staff will do our utmost to make sure that your child(ren)
- Each secondary classroom will be sterilized by the teacher between classes with a UV wand. Elementary classrooms will be sterilized with a UV wand as often as the teacher sees fit. These wands will be dispersed throughout the building as we determine the need.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided for each classroom, plus there will be sanitizer in bottles placed in strategic locations throughout the school.

- ACS has also procured a spray hand sanitizer/surface sanitizer. We will be making sure that this is available for teachers to use.
- Students eating lunch will practice social distancing. Again, students (families) may choose what they feel comfortable with. We will continue to use the gym for secondary lunch. Mr. Quinlan monitors that area. Elementary students eat their lunches in their rooms.
- ACS will also have a "sneeze shield" in place at the lunch/concessions windows, inside and outside.

## WEEKNIGHTS

- WeeKnights will occupy the area just west of Mrs. Ellsworth's room and just west of the corner of the elementary and WeeKnight's hallway. All WeeKnights rules will apply west of that line.
- WeeKnights will be asked to comply with the health rules that apply to them.
- It should be noted that WeeKnights is not considered a "Public Area" according to the governor's standards, since it is a daycare.

## VISITORS

- All visitors to ACS (with the exception of WeeKnights parents, grandparents, etc) will need to enter the school through the main entrance by the gym and then report to the main office. Main office staff will handle transfer of lunches, etc., to students and they will also get students and bring them back to the office to meet with whomever is there to get them. Elementary parents will need to enter through the secondary entrance during the school day.
- Drop off for the beginning of the school day and pick-up at the end of the school day will continue as normal.

## SPORTING EVENTS

- Sports seasons will proceed as normal for the teams. If you choose to let your child play sports you are choosing a more "high risk" environment. That is the nature of sports.
- Student athletes will be required to have their own water bottles. Drinking from fountains will be highly discouraged.
- The sports seasons might well be shorter (fewer games) than in previous years. Christian school opponents will likely still play, but public school opponents might cancel games, either at the beginning of a season, or unexpectedly during the season. We will need to be flexible in our expectations, and understanding of the problems Mr. Delgado will face as he (and I) deal with this situation.
- Spectators will be informed by posted signs that at our athletic facilities are "Face Shield/Mask Recommended" zones. Again, I stress, face shields/masks are a family level decision. Spectators will also be asked to practice social distancing as much as they are able.
- The school will NOT police social distancing, there is just no way to accurately do that.

## PROTOCOLS FOR SICK STUDENTS/STAFF

- Students who are retained at home by parents due to illness will require 24 hours after their temperature drops before returning to school. Communication between parents/teacher, or student/teachers will be required to figure out the homework situation (In other words, this will proceed as it has in the past.....the student is sick.....talk to the teacher about work.)
- Students who are retained at home by parents and are CONFIRMED to have any infectious disease by a healthcare professional will be required to remain quarantined for the specified



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- time by the professional. Parents are asked to practice a limited quarantine within their home by attempting to isolate the patient as much as possible.
- Currently ACS reports immunological information to the Kent County Health Department. Recent information provided by MACS (Michigan Association of Christian Schools) would seem to indicate that this is a courtesy, not a requirement.
  - Students who are confined to home due to illness, will be switched to distance learning as soon as they feel well enough to start working on curriculum again. (See Distance Learning Plan - Attached)
  - Teachers will all be using Google services to communicate with homebound children. This is not to say that all teachers will be on Google Classroom, etc., it is just to say that Google will be the vector for any video conferencing, etc.
  - The school and parents will have to be in communication about getting the student needed support materials, and homework pick up/drop off times will need to be established for paperwork, projects, etc.
  - Parents will be required to immediately come to school to get a symptomatic student.
  - If student attendance as a whole drops below 80% school will be suspended until numbers are back to acceptable levels of attendance. This is the case with any disease outbreak. In this situation, snowday/distance learning would kick in school-wide. If the situation doesn't resolve itself within a week's time, the distance learning plan would then be implemented (see Distance Learning Plan - Attached).
  - Symptomatic staff members would immediately be sent home. Mrs. Russell would be required to find a sub, either within the building, or externally. Quarantine rules would be the same for staff as they are for students.
  - Normal attendance rules would need to be flexed and we would consider absences on a "case by case" basis. This would also apply to staff "sick leave."