



May 6, 2020

Dear Catholic School Family Members,

We pray that you and your family are safe and that remote instruction continues to go smoothly for your child and your family. We are grateful for your cooperation and support and for the efforts of our schools to ensure your child's education continues unimpeded. Today, Governor Larry Hogan announced the closure of Maryland's public schools through the end of the current school year. We write to inform you that all archdiocesan schools will follow suit, and instruction through distance learning will continue for the remainder of our school year ending on June 11th.

While disappointing and inconvenient, this decision is made solely with the health and safety of your children and all our school communities in mind. Now that we know our schools cannot reopen this year, there are many questions and issues that need to be addressed, not the least of which relate to our beloved 8th graders & high school seniors and the treasured moments they deserve and have been long working towards, culminating with graduation exercises. We have been in discussions with all our schools regarding these issues and are continuing to process and plan for the impact of the closure of school facilities for the remainder of the year, which affects many aspects of student life and overall school operations. Once our discussions are complete, more information will be provided and we will be available to assist you with further questions and needs as they arise.

Regarding the reopening of our schools next year, our goal as of today is to reopen our campuses, as scheduled, for the start of the next school year in August. An official announcement regarding the 2020-21 school year will be made once current State orders are lifted and once we see steady and consistent progress in the decline in new COVID-19 cases. Any decision we make about the reopening of our school buildings will be based on our top priority: having a learning environment that is as safe and healthy as possible for your child and for our entire school community.

In the meantime, we pray for your continued health and safety and for that of your family. Be assured that we will do everything possible to make the remainder of this memorable school year as productive and formative as we possibly can.

Yours in Service to the Mission of Jesus,

Donna M. Hargens, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Archdiocese of Baltimore

James B. Sellinger
Chancellor of Education
Archdiocese of Baltimore