



# THE JOHN CARROLL SCHOOL

## **Transcript of Reopening Plan: Academic Instruction Video – Recorded July 15, 2020**

Principal Tom Durkin: Good afternoon, John Carroll students and families!

Today, I'm sharing with you some of the plans from the School Reopening Task Force in the focus area of Academic Instruction. Over the next few weeks, you'll also hear from our school nurse, Michelle Webster, who will address Physical and Emotional Health; our director of facilities, Joe McGrain, who will fill you in on plans for our Facilities and Transportation; and task force co-chair and director of athletics, Seth Goldberg, who will discuss Athletics and Extracurriculars.

We are planning for a variety of possible scenarios for academic instruction, including:

- Plan 1 - A full return to school, with all students in the building every day. If the latest guidelines for schools from the American Academy of Pediatrics indicate a safe distancing area of 3 feet, we should be able to safely accommodate all of our students in classrooms.
- Second - A hybrid return to school, where half of our students will be in school each day, Monday through Friday. If 6-foot distancing recommendations are still in place, we will implement this scenario in which students will be divided into two groups by alphabetical order, to better accommodate siblings. These groups (A and B) will alternate between on-campus and distanced, fully synchronous learning. In this scenario, Group A would attend school in-person three days a week while Group B participates in a live simulcast of the class from home, and Group B would attend in-person on the other two days while Group A participates in the live simulcast from home. Groups would alternate so Group A would attend three in-person days one week and two the following and Group B would attend two in-person days the first week and three the following.
- Finally, the last scenario is full distance learning, where all students are learning online only.

In both of the latter scenarios, distance learning will be significantly expanded from what students experienced last spring.

I would also like to share a few other important notes on plans for Academic Instruction.

- First, it's important to note that it is likely we will move from scenarios throughout the school year in response to current public health conditions and regulations. For example, we could start with a hybrid scenario and move to full return to school if permitted. Conversely, we could start with a hybrid or full return to school and have to shift to distance learning temporarily.
- Furthermore, cameras have been installed, and soundbars, in every classroom to simulcast classes and facilitate full synchronous learning for students not physically in the building.
- Students will be able to opt out of in-person instruction for the entire school year, if so desired.
- Students who are exhibiting any symptoms of illness will be asked to stay home and take advantage of synchronous distance learning.
- Our plan is to offer all our available academic classes in some capacity, including arts and performance classes. We are looking at creative scenarios to ensure safe instruction in these unique subject areas.
- Finally, we are making some adjustments to ensure all students continue to benefit from our strong college counseling program. Juniors and seniors will continue to meet with the counseling team in some capacity and, for the first time this fall, we will have a dedicated school day on campus where seniors will be able to take their SATs.

In an effort to ensure the latest information on reopening is readily available, we have created a new website page, where you can find it at [www.johncarroll.org/reopening](http://www.johncarroll.org/reopening). A link to this email and video, as well as a transcript of this video, will be available on that page along with any future updates. Additionally, if you have any questions or concerns regarding school reopening, we encourage you to submit them via the form on that same page.

I sincerely thank you for your continued trust and support of John Carroll and hope you enjoy the rest of your summer. Thank you.