

August 4, 2020

## **St. Louis School Reopening 2020-2021 Important Update Including Uniforms and Supply Lists**

As we prepare to reopen school, we realize that circumstances are fluid, and we are most grateful for our remarkable SLS families who are resilient! In order to keep everyone safe and healthy, we will all need to make adjustments this school year. Thank you for your willingness to do so with the grace that is ever-present in our community.

We would like to share with you some important changes. We have tried to include as many notes as possible, but there may be more to come. Thank you in advance for your understanding as we embark on this very unusual year.

- **UNIFORMS:** Students may wear their **physical education uniform** and **sneakers** each day. We will be increasing airflow in the building (including opening windows to the extent possible), and this may affect the effectiveness of the air conditioning. We will also take the students outside as much as possible, and they will be more comfortable in their physical education uniform and sneakers. Of course, students may wear their summer uniform. **Younger students should wear sneakers with Velcro straps;** teachers will not be able to tie shoes as they maintain social distancing.
- **Easy to open LUNCH containers:** Students will need to bring their lunches in easy-to-open containers. Please have your child practice opening them at home. In order to maintain social distancing, teachers will not be able to open lunch containers. Please send in spoons and forks, as needed, as we will not be able to distribute these items.
- Students will eat lunch in their classrooms, and we will not have designated peanut tables. St. Louis will be a nut-free school.

The changes to our school environment have also necessitated changes to our **SUPPLY LISTS**. In this area, too, we have tried to predict all changes, but please bear with us if the need for other changes arises. There may be items listed on the original supply lists that the students will not immediately use, but please keep these items available for future use.

- **Face coverings:** We will all wear masks to protect one another. Everyone, upon entry into our building, will wear a face mask. **Multi-layered facemasks with earloops are now a required part of the uniform policy.** Masks must be one solid color without images or text, and they need to cover the mouth and nose. The CDC offers directions on their [website](#) if you choose to make your mask at home. Students should wear a clean mask each day to school, so families should make or purchase multiple washable masks. Students will be required to bring an additional mask to school each day in case of an emergency. The mask should be placed in a ziploc bag labelled with the student's name. **Cloth face masks are NOT surgical masks or N95 respirators.** Currently, surgical masks and N95 respirators are critical supplies that should be reserved for healthcare workers and other first responders. We have received solid color masks and will send a pack of five home with each child. Your child may choose to wear one of

these or another solid color mask. Please have your child practice wearing his or her mask.

- **Breakaway lanyard:** To prevent masks from becoming lost or from falling on the floor and becoming soiled, masks are to be worn with a breakaway lanyard. Breakaway mask lanyards are available from many vendors, including Amazon.
- **Five-gallon bucket with handle:** Students are asked to bring a five-gallon bucket with a handle to keep their supplies and lunches at their desks. The bucket will remain at school. Please line the bucket with a plastic trash bag and label the bucket with the student's name.
- **Paper lunch bags to be used as individual trash bags:** To help maintain social distancing, students will need a paper lunch bag to use at their desk as their own personal trash bag. Students should bring a few at a time to replenish their supply.
- **Container for supplies such as pencils, pens, glue sticks:** Supply lists for several grades have already included a pencil case or pencil box for students' pens, pencils, glue sticks, crayons, etc. With the exception of kindergarten, if a pencil box/pencil case was not included on your child's supply list, we ask that you please purchase one. Kindergarten students will receive a pencil box when they arrive.
- **Dry erase markers and microfiber cloth:** Students may be working with an individual dry erase board. In that case, they would need dry erase markers (black and a couple other colors -- a 4-pack would be fine) and a microfiber cloth (to use as an eraser). Some supply lists already included these items; if not, we ask that you purchase them.
- **9 x 12 clipboard** (for K-8): This will be helpful when students have the opportunity to work outside.
- **Personal size package of tissues:** Please replenish as necessary. We are not able to have a classroom, shared box of tissues, so if your child's original supply list included a box of tissues, please keep it home for family use.
- **Personal size container of hand sanitizer:** This was already included on supply lists and is mentioned here only as a reminder.
- **3rd-8th grades:** Students will need a USB Mouse (wired or wireless - if wireless, please provide batteries) and earbuds or headphones (with a 3.5 mm standard audio jack or USB). This was already included on supply lists and is mentioned here only as a reminder.
- **2nd grade:** Students will need their own headphones -- either USB or the type with a headphone jack.
- **1st grade:** Students will need their own headphones -- the type with a headphone jack.
- **Kindergarten:** Students will need their own headphones -- the type with a headphone jack. Each student will need a plain, solid color, 1.5" three-ring binder. This will be used to help keep the student's work organized.
- **Pre-K students:** In lieu of the tea towel included on the original supply list, parents are asked to send a couple extra napkins each day or a couple sheets of paper towels for your child to use as a placemat.

We continue to pray for the safety and well-being of your family. Thank you for entrusting your children to us.