



SAINT DOMINIC ACADEMY

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Dear Families,

Over the last ten weeks, St. Dom's has improvised and responded with admirable, even amazing rapidity to enable students to finish this school year in the best possible way. St. Dom's staff, students, and parents have done an amazing job of responding to the current COVID 19 situation and have demonstrated incredible resiliency and commitment. Thank you for your willingness to finish strong! It has been a challenging ending to the school year, but I hope you have found ways to embrace the change to our typical routines. Maybe there were fewer morning rushes and more morning walks, fewer evening commitments and more evening family dinners, fewer scheduled events, and more time for spiritual growth. No matter what, we have all learned to adapt and be thankful for God's grace and to trust in His unwavering love for us.

As we prepare to close out another year and retool for the 2020-2021 school year, we know there are many questions and unknowns at this point. While we all share the same feeling of uncertainty, there are several things we know:

- ***St. Dom's Lewiston Campus will host a Virtual Field Day on June 3rd (there will be no academic classes on this day), and we've kicked it up a notch!*** Coach Fox has developed a plan that is fun for the whole family and, staying true to her love of fitness, she has fitness challenges for us all! "**SDA Virtual Fit Fest**" is a day-long festival that includes **Virtual Field Day, a Fit Fest S.A.I.N.T.S. workout, and a Virtual 5k**. Students can log it at any time during that day. There is no specific schedule or times, and the 5K can be completed anytime in that week (who's running with me?) The festival information is all on the website <https://bfox723.wixsite.com/website>
- ***St. Dom's will celebrate the end of school through a parade on Friday June 5 at 10am at the Lewiston Campus.*** Our teachers and staff would like to wish you all a happy summer by inviting you to the school for a drive through parade. Parents are invited to drive through the Lewiston Campus parking lot, entering at the St. Croix street entrance and exiting out Baird. Staff will be spread out lining the parking lot to wish your students a wonderful summer with the closest in-person greeting and long-distance hugs we can offer at this time.
- ***We are finalizing classroom assignments for next year and you and your child will be notified of placement at the end of the school year.*** Thank you for your thoughtful responses to the parent survey regarding classroom placement. We are using your feedback, along with information provided by your child's current teacher(s) to make class placement decisions.
- ***We will be collecting school books, chromebooks, library books and other materials that need to be returned to the school after academics conclude.*** We will be available the last week of school and the week of June 8th for you to drop off materials. A more detailed day and time schedule will be issued next week.
- ***St. Dom's school leaders, custodial staff, nurses and teachers are working diligently to prepare for the very best start to the 2020-2021 school year we can possibly offer our students and***

families. We are developing a plan to return to in-classroom learning based on the guidelines that have been provided to schools by the CDC. This will mean that although the physical and communal nature of the school may look and be different next year, we will remain true to the school's mission and will ensure that your children remain, safe, loved and educated. We are fortunate to have guidelines which allow our school to make decisions that will best fit our students and community, and I am confident that we will be able to adapt our environment in a way that meets all areas of consideration. An example of some of the expectations that we are developing include and are not limited to: adding medical resources both in facility and personnel; adaptation to the movement of persons in the building including traffic directions and a reconfiguration of the space to maximize the learning environment; a reconfiguration of drop off to allow for fewer individuals entering the school building while also developing ways of maintaining the community connection that makes us a St. Dom's family; and a plan to support the continued education for students who may be individually impacted and need alternative educational options. While I do not yet have all of the details and plans in place to share with you at this time, please know that we are committed to the safety and love for you and your children and will work to provide them with the Catholic education to which you have committed.

- **We will work all summer to prepare** with scientifically proven cleaning and disinfecting supplies with a thoughtful plan for ongoing disinfecting strategies.
- **We will ensure all suggested safety guidelines are met** for the protection of our staff, students, and families.
- **We will continue to communicate** and keep parents and students informed as we progress over the next few weeks.

I am so proud of the sincere commitment and compassion of St. Dom's parents, students and teachers. We are exceptionally blessed with absolutely amazing students and we consider it a privilege to partner with families as we all work together through a unique time in our lives.

We look forward to seeing you face to face soon, but until then know that we are here working hard to ensure the very best for our students and community.

Many blessings,

Alanna Stevenson
Principal, Saint Dominic Academy
Lewiston Campus