



BERGEN CATHOLIC  
HIGH SCHOOL

# THE ROADMAP

## BACK TO SCHOOL

**1** BRING IN THE EXPERTS

THE REOPENING PLAN **2**

**3** CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT



# OUR SAFE LEARNING PROMISE



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you all for your patience, support, and encouragement as we implement our **Roadmap Back to School** and begin to reopen Bergen Catholic and work towards returning to in-person instruction. We have developed a **Safe Learning Promise** and are committed to reopening our school providing in-person instruction for all students. During this past spring, we were fortunate to deliver an uninterrupted approach to teaching and learning. We remain proud of the resiliency shown by our students and the professional commitment from our teachers. Our school remains well-equipped to help students learn remotely and, throughout the summer, we have made investments in technology and professional development to ensure Bergen Catholic continues to be the leader in online learning.

At school, we have developed a Coronavirus Task Force Team dedicated to understanding and implementing best practices of health and safety which will solidify our **Safe Learning Promise** and guide us in reopening our school. The team is comprised of healthcare professionals from Holy Name Medical Center, athletic trainers from Bergen Catholic, and members of our School Leadership Team. Throughout the summer, we have met frequently and hosted several Virtual Town Hall Meetings answering questions and addressing concerns.

As we move forward together, we will use data to drive our decision making, allowing us to best understand how many students can safely be in the building. We will be reopening school in phases. After our orientation days, when all students will gather together by grade level, we will start our first day of school with 50% of our students and follow a rotational schedule in which students will have a hybrid of in-person instruction and online learning. Knowing how important friendships are and the strength of the Brotherhood, we are committed to bringing the school together by grade level so friendships can be formed and the Brotherhood strengthened. This may be done after the academic day. We are finalizing our curriculum and special approach to these days and will share this with you in mid-August.

We plan to update families every two weeks and hope that after each update we can increase the number of students receiving in-person instruction. Tracking the data and with the direction of the Holy Name Medical Center, along with guidance from both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Governor's Office, we will strive to increase our capacity every few weeks until we have 100% of our students receiving in-person instruction on a daily basis. Please understand, information and guidance we receive on COVID-19 changes every day. Please remain flexible with us as we aspire to achieve our goal of 100% in-person instruction and understand that it may take longer than we are anticipating.

We understand that some families have multi-generational households and/or vulnerable family members and would prefer to remain with 100% online remote learning until the uncertainty of COVID-19 passes. We are prepared to help those families and ensure their sons do not miss the opportunity to learn with their classmates. Please review our **Roadmap Back to School** as it provides important information about the reopening of school and our **Safe Learning Promise** to our families. We remain grateful for all your support. May God bless you and your families and continue to look after us in these times of uncertainty.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Mahoney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Brian Mahoney  
President

# CORONAVIRUS TASK FORCE TEAM

Our Coronavirus Task Force Team is comprised of healthcare professionals from Holy Name Medical Center and members of our School Leadership Team. We are committed to providing a safe teaching and learning environment for our students and staff. We continue to meet weekly discussing trends related to the coronavirus and will update our families every two weeks. We also remain committed to offering Virtual Town Hall Meetings where parents can hear from medical experts and raise questions and concerns.



**Ben Chianchiano,  
MS., LAT, ATC, ITAT, CSCS  
Athletic Trainer**  
Holy Name Medical Center



**Reg Grant,  
CAT(C), CSCS, RSCC\*E  
Director of  
Human Performance**  
Holy Name Medical Center



**Mr. Scott Hirschmugl  
Director of Finance and  
Operations**  
Bergen Catholic  
High School



**Matthew Hoepfner, PA-C  
Physician Assistant**  
Holy Name Medical Center



**Mr. Dan Kurpick  
Director of Facilities**  
Bergen Catholic  
High School



**Mr. Jorge Mascaro '84  
Faculty**  
Bergen Catholic  
High School



**Mr. Tim McElhinney  
Principal**  
Bergen Catholic  
High School



**Mr. Al Spiegel '95  
Director of Technology**  
Bergen Catholic  
High School



**Randy Tartacoff, MD FACEP  
Executive Director of  
Harmony Health Alliance**  
Holy Name Medical Center



**Mrs. Celeste Tumino  
Nurse**  
Bergen Catholic  
High School



**Michael VanKoppen,  
LAT, ATC  
Athletic Trainer**  
Holy Name Medical Center



**Mrs. Elisabeth Walter  
Director of College  
Counseling**  
Bergen Catholic  
High School

# STEP 1: BRING IN EXPERTS

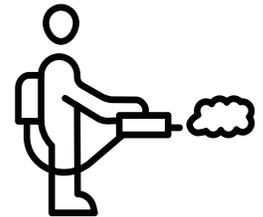
Holy Name Medical Center in Teaneck, NJ, is proud to partner with Bergen Catholic High School, as we focus on the health and safety of the students, faculty, and entire BC community. With expertise in emergency medicine, infectious disease, and human performance, Holy Name is providing both intellectual and material support to the BC community this year, allowing for the safest possible return to academics and activities. We are communicating with school administrators to develop safety protocols, provide staff training, and ensure that the campus is properly cleaned.



What does this effort look like? Let's walk through it together:

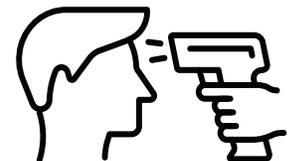
## BEFORE THE SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS

Holy Name Medical Center personnel decontaminates and cleans the school interior. We provide hospital-grade disinfectants and train the BC staff on best practices for cleaning surfaces throughout the school year. We are in regular communication with BC administrators to guide decisions regarding all aspects of student life as it pertains to COVID-19. Our experience with this disease and access to hospital resources provide a unique opportunity to maximize safety and minimize disruptions to student life.



## FROM THE START

We understand there are multiple ways in which students arrive to school, each presenting their own logistical challenges. For this reason, students are screened for symptoms of COVID-19 and fever by BC staff upon arrival to school grounds. Please understand that presence of symptoms and/or fever results in dismissal from school that day.



For the safety of the BC community and integrity of the school year, we strongly recommend that parents complete the COVID-19 symptom questionnaire and take their son's temperature before leaving the house in the morning. Any "yes" answer on the questionnaire and/or presence of temperature at or above 100.4 degrees F should prompt the parent to keep their son home and call the school.

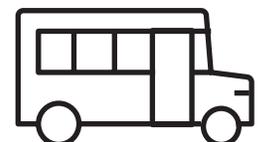
## OUR MASK POLICY

The school campus requires the use of face masks at all times with limited exclusions. Bus stops, bus travel, and carpooling are an extension of this policy, and require wearing a mask at all times.



## SAFETY RULES FOR BUSING

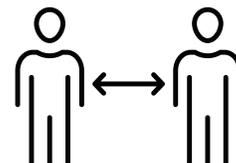
Students are required to board the school bus by filling back rows first, then progressing forward. When exiting the school bus, students must disembark in the opposite order (front to back). Face masks must be worn at all times while on the school bus.



# OUR SAFE LEARNING PROMISE

## HIT THE DOOR RUNNING...6 FEET APART

The routine changes continue upon arrival to the campus. There will be grade-specific entrance and exit points on campus. Students and staff remain in masks and spread out, at least 6 feet apart. Social distancing is employed to every extent possible, from routine interactions, assigned doors for entry/egress and hallway travel, to classroom arrangement.

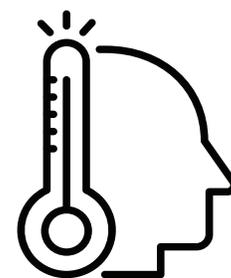


Students are grouped in areas of the school building by grade level, a bell schedule is utilized, offering fewer class periods during the same 8:00 am – 2:00 pm school day. Hand-sanitizing stations are located at every door. Students and faculty are cleaning their hands upon entry and exit from each room. Materials (computers, phones, papers, writing implements, science equipment, etc.) are not shared or handed between students and/or staff. If circumstances necessitate sharing, surfaces are disinfected prior to hand-off. This is all in an effort to minimize exposures that can impact the community.



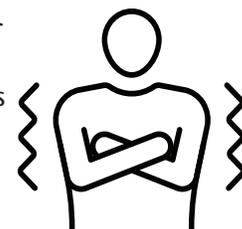
## ILLNESS WHILE ON CAMPUS

Your son is in science class and can't smell the acetone. The development of fever, sore throat, new change in taste/smell, cough, shortness of breath, diarrhea, and/or body aches while on school grounds results in evaluation by the school nurse who may require a telemedicine visit with an HNMC provider. If dismissed, there is a designated "wait for pickup" area and he is accompanied by a BC staff member at all times until you arrive. Expedited, in person, medical evaluation is available through Holy Name Medical Center with COVID-19 testing, as clinically appropriate. It does not involve an ER visit unless absolutely necessary.



A positive COVID-19 test results in 14-day quarantine from the day of symptom onset. Monitoring of the student's clinical status is available through Holy Name Medical Center via telemedicine.

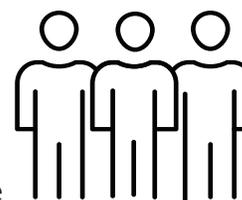
Any student, family, or staff member with a positive COVID-19 test initiates contact tracing, per the Department of Health. Those with high-risk exposures are quarantined for 14 days. High-risk exposure is defined as being within a six-foot distance for a duration of at least two minutes of an individual known to have COVID-19 while not wearing a mask. Additionally, if anyone residing in a student's home tests positive for COVID-19, the student must quarantine for 14 days from the date of the positive test.



Disruptions to academics are minimized, as classes remain available via our virtual platform. Participation in extracurricular activity during this time is restricted, however.

## ACTIVITIES

Athletics continue per previously established guidelines. Our goal is the safe opening of all activities. Similar to transit to/from school, each activity presents unique considerations. Gym, choir, band, larger gatherings, etc. are under review. Recommendations to the school are pending. Domestic travel of students and their family members follows NJ State quarantine guidelines.



# STEP 2: THE REOPENING PLAN

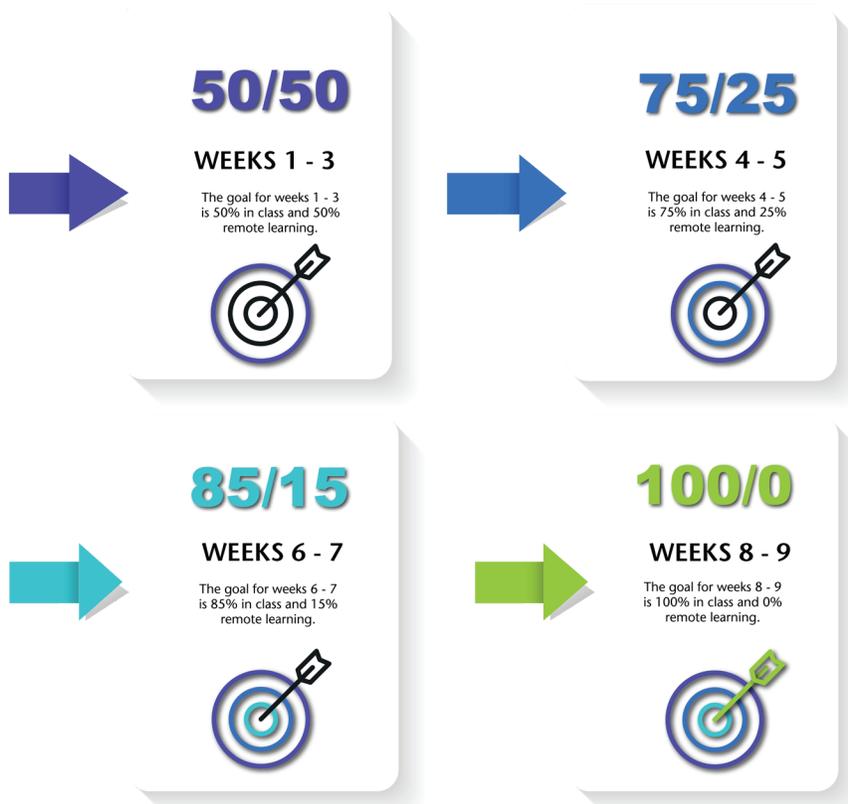
Please understand that information we receive on COVID-19 and the best guidance to reopening school changes on a daily basis. Our goal with this reopening plan is to provide you a general overview of how the first few months of school will run. We are committed to reopening on time and having a full school day that offers in-person and online instruction. We will ultimately work toward phasing-out remote learning and being back to normal with 100% in-person instruction.

We are finalizing the details of our class and bell schedules that will allow for the safest approach to in-person instruction and will share more information in mid-August. Please remember, due to an increase in COVID-19 cases we may not be able to achieve our goals of increasing the capacity within the school buildings. We will do our best to meet our goals and keep you well informed throughout the process.

**PLEASE UNDERSTAND WE ASPIRE TO THESE GOALS AND THEY MAY TAKE LONGER TO ACHIEVE THAN THE TIME PLANNED.**

## WEEKLY GOALS

THE GOAL IS 100%



## IMPORTANT DATES

9th Grade Orientation:  
September 9, 2020

10th Grade Orientation:  
September 10, 2020

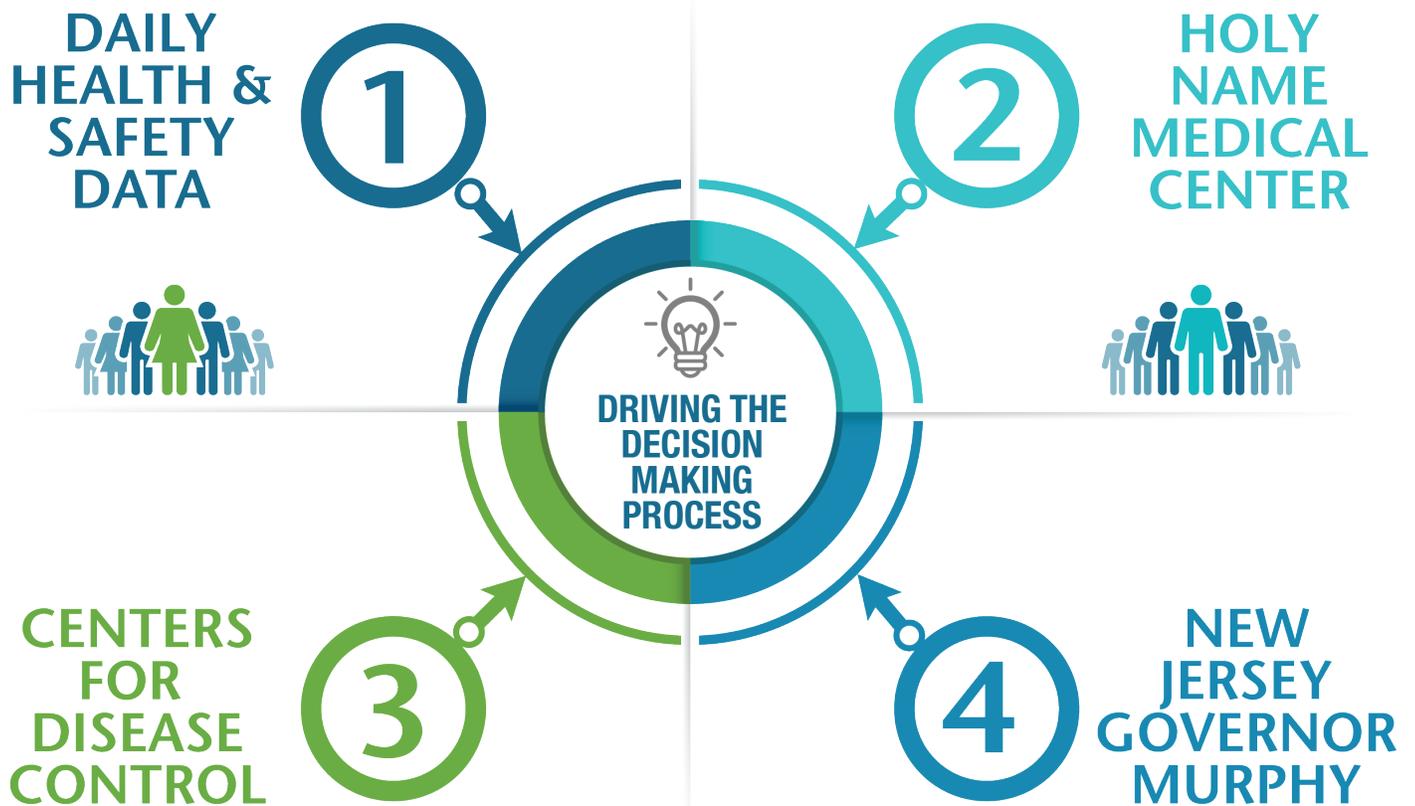
11th Grade Orientation:  
September 11, 2020  
(morning session)

12th Grade Orientation:  
September 11, 2020  
(afternoon session)

First day of school:  
Monday, September 14  
50% capacity.  
Details to follow.

# STEP 3: CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

We review the health and safety data collected at the school, the information provided by the Holy Name Medical Center professionals, and the latest guidelines issued by the CDC and Governor Murphy daily. Using this information, we make our go-forward decisions. Our goal is to continually monitor and improve the process, ensuring the health and safety of our students and staff, while working toward returning to the classroom 100% of the time.



# FAQS: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## THE BROTHERHOOD

Opening at less than 100% capacity, we plan to offer opportunities for students to gather together by grade level.

These opportunities will be team-building activities where friendships will be formed and the Brotherhood will be strengthened.

## SEPARATE ENTRANCE AND EXIT POINTS

We will have separate entrances and exit points by grade level. This is designed to control the flow in and out of the building and allow us to measure temperatures and record data regarding the health and wellness of our students.

## WILL MASKS BE REQUIRED?

Yes. Students, staff, and all visitors entering Bergen Catholic will be expected to wear a mask. Masks must be worn in the classrooms and only taken off while eating and drinking. Masks must be worn covering both the nose and mouth. Bandanas and other face coverings are not allowed.

## CAN I CHOOSE TO LEARN 100% REMOTELY?

Yes. We have led the way in online learning and parents can choose to have their sons learn 100% remotely. We will ask that you do this by marking period. Halfway through the marking period, parents can choose to continue for another marking period or join our school community on a hybrid model.

## STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

The Student Success Center will remain fully staffed and a resource to students.

## COLLEGE COUNSELING

Our Crusader College Counseling Experience will continue to lead the way providing families in grades 9-12 with necessary information as they prepare to apply to college. There will be both on-campus and virtual opportunities for students to successfully navigate the college process and for parents to attend discussions from leading experts.

## HOW WILL LUNCH WORK?

Lunch will be available for all students and staff members. You will be required to wear a mask in the Crusader Cafe; however, the mask can be removed to eat and drink. Shields will be installed on the cafe as an extra precautionary step.

## TRANSPORTATION

Bergen Catholic is utilizing both public and private transportation companies. We are working with all our transportation companies and will have more information in mid-August.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO AT HOME?

Please take your son's temperature before he leaves for the day. Keep sick children home from school and inform the school of any illnesses within your family.