**Queen of Peace School Board Minutes- August 11, 2020**

**Present:**  David Douglas, Karin Sabyan, Brandon Swanson, Mary Marquis, Renee Gaffne, Jason Loons, Kim Evander, Joy Brekke, April Sprouse, Sr Lisa Mauer

**Opening Prayer**: David Douglas

**Introductions:** Sr Lisa Mauer has joined the Board representing the Benedictine Community.

The purpose of tonight’s meeting is to present the school’s preliminary plans for opening the school in light of Covid19 restrictions and to seek feedback from board members regarding the various elements.

It is important to note that it is not possible to eliminate the risk, but the school is seeking to have a balanced approach to the situation.

**Health Screening**- The state and the CDC do not recommend screening; the Diocese recommends it.

-Mr Meisner will screen staff and visitors as they come in. Visitors must be cleared ahead of time and masked.

-Students- Preschool and Kindergarten- enter through door #5, exit through door #2 with parents. Students in grades 1-8 will enter through the door by the parish office and sanitize there. Parents should not be entering the building unless there are special circumstances. Screening will be done by the school door. A temperature and symptom checklist needs to be done in some way for due diligence. The MN decision tree will be used if someone has symptoms. Initial plan is for them to go into the gym after screening as it is well ventilated and be grouped together in their separate classes. Karin suggested the possibility of having parents do an initial screening at home.

 Sr Lisa Mauer will share the pledge that CSS students are making regarding taking responsibility for being healthy and not exposing others. She suggested that parents could be asked to sign a covenant which links values with healthy behavior.

- Anyone at the school who starts having symptoms during the day will be isolated, areas will be sanitized and proper protocol steps will be followed.

**Distancing/Operations** –

Lunch- undetermined right now- could be in classrooms, could be staggered times in cafeteria. Students will be kept in their cohorts as much as possible.

Recess- guidelines are more lax- social distancing, but no masks

Classrooms- Students will be at individual desks facing the same direction

Dismissal- Will be done by class with the teacher bringing the class outside. Discussion is ongoing regarding where the easiest and safest place for parents to pick up students would be.

**Hand washing / Hygiene**-

Signs will be posted regarding good hand washing and hygiene practices. The suggestion was made that each student could potentially have a bottle of sanitizer on their desk, which would help with individuals who may be sensitive to some sanitizers. Hand washing will be utilized whenever possible.

 **Masks**-

Kindergarten and preschool students are not required to wear masks, all other students will be wearing masks at least during passing times. Teachers will be wearing masks or face shields.

Mr Douglas has money which can be used for Covid 19 preparedness and plans to purchase face shields for the teachers. School board members did not feel that the school should purchase face shields for students, but the school will provide at least one mask for each student and will have some on hand for replacing forgotten/lost/damaged masks and for visitors if necessary.

**Disinfecting/Cleaning**-

An ionizing system has been purchased. While high touch surfaces will be sanitized regularly, research will be done on how frequently general areas should be disinfected to strike a balance between sanitization and exposure of students and staff to unnecessary chemicals.

The outline which the school will be using to establish guidelines is very detailed, but because of the circumstances is always open to change. Our small school numbers are an advantage in terms of the ability to conduct in person classes.

**School Board Chairperson** – With the resignation of Sean Huls from the Board this summer, we do not currently have a chairperson. Brandon Swanson volunteered and was accepted as Chairperson for the School Board. Thank you Brandon!

Next Meeting: September 15, 2020

Respectfully submitted by Mary Marquis