



July 24, 2020

Dear Parents:

I hope that all of you are doing well and enjoying your summer.

Three weeks ago I started my position as Principal and, on my first day, I looked at the possibility of offering all St. Ambrose families full time in-face instruction that would also be in compliance with CDC guidelines for safe school reopening.

This task came with many challenges, as two of my biggest classrooms, Third and Fifth grade had 22 students, and our classrooms can only hold 16 to 19 students when following social distancing guidelines which required six-foot distance among students and teachers. To be able to open the school and give our families the option of face-to-face instruction, we needed to find a space that could hold that many students safely.

Unfortunately, space is limited at our school and **only the gym offered enough room to accommodate both grades safely**. We also looked at the possibility to use the Parish Hall, but this area holds many gatherings during the school year and due to CDC mandate to minimize adults coming into the building, this option was not possible.

Both classes will be divided by an 8-foot-high wall-to-wall partition. In addition, we have purchased an audio device with earbuds to ensure good audio between teacher and the student. Also, each class will have the same set up as the traditional classroom, with smart boards and white boards.

I understand this decision may come as a surprise to you, but please understand this was our only option to be able to open our school safely under the existing space restrictions. Most importantly, this decision was made keeping in mind the best interest of all our students and I appreciate your understanding as we continue to plan for a safe reopening during this pandemic.

Yours in Christ,

Maria Teresa Tejada

Principal

St. Ambrose Catholic School