

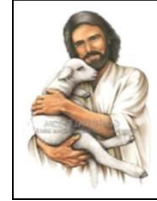
## "News from Your School"

September 2020

Good Shepherd Lutheran School, 10611 Hwy 13 South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

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### ***Plans, Plans, and More Plans!***

Jeremiah 29:11 *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to give you peace, not disaster, plans to give you hope and a future."* This passage brought great comfort during a summer where planning seemed to be thwarted at every turn. Planning to reopen school involved attending an abundance of meetings at every level imaginable, two national meetings began the discussions, and our Synod offered support and encouragement to follow the CDC, state and local guidelines.

After the state guidelines were developed, the local health departments worked closely with the school districts within their respective counties to fine tune the protocols to fit our needs. Public, private, and religious schools were all represented at each of those meetings. It was a journey, for as soon as we thought we had all the necessary information to begin preparing for the upcoming school year, that information would change, and we would be back at square one. Flexibility is the approach we needed to assume – and will be expected even now.



Our Board of Christian Education at Good Shepherd helped sift through all the options and came up with the following plan. They kept all the necessary health and sanitation protocols in mind, while being sensitive to the needs of our school families as much as possible. Here is a snapshot of our school schedule for now.

Our **3K** will meet on Monday and Wednesday mornings, from 8:40 -11:30 a.m. The 3K families will be using the back door for dropping off and picking up. The 3K students will be using the restroom facilities in the back hallway. 3K begins with 2 playdates scheduled for Sept. 2 & 3. The official start of 3K is Wednesday, September 9.

Our **elementary school** will meet in person, Monday -Thursday from 8:30 – 2:00 p.m. Friday will still be a school day but done at home. This schedule will begin the third week of school, because the first two weeks of school are 4-day weeks, each beginning on Tuesday. Those first two weeks school will be in session from Tuesday -Friday. The first official day of school is Sept. 1. The elementary families will be using the front doors for drop off and pick up. They will be using the main restroom facilities. This schedule accommodates the age range of our students (younger/older) and affords the time needed for extra sanitation that is required to be done each day.

To accommodate the distancing required in the elementary classroom, the school library needed to be moved to the back of the building. Canopies will be set up to provide shade as 3K -gr. 8 have been encouraged to hold classes outdoors as much as possible. This will also provide a fresh air break that we will all need from wearing masks at school.

In addition, all Wisconsin schools are to limit the people in the building during school hours to essential personnel only. We will miss seeing our volunteers and friends from the congregation. We certainly hope this will be a temporary situation!

While school will be so different this year – one thing never changes. That is the love of our gracious Lord Jesus Christ. He has guided us through this process and will watch over us all as we gather once again in our Christ-centered school. We give him all the Glory!

**Blessings! ~ Mrs. T**