

Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons School

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January 3, 2021

Dear Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons Community,

The purpose of this message is to affirm that ND-BG will reopen for in-person learning tomorrow, Jan. 4.

We recognize that the COVID-19 infection rate has continued to increase in our area in recent days. However, all available data indicates that the rate of virus transmission in ND-BG is low. Governor Andrew Cuomo has said that the precautions schools have taken have been effective.

Unless staffing shortages require all-remote learning or there is evidence of broader virus transmission in schools, our school will remain open for in-person learning. We will continue to work with our public health partners to monitor all available information, including how the increased infection rates relate to schools. In addition, remote learning options continue to be available to all families.

At school, all of our health and safety precautions remain fully in effect. They include mask wearing, social distancing, enhanced cleaning and disinfecting, and the daily health screening. We again remind you that it is critical to answer the daily screening honestly and that anyone who is sick or cannot answer "No" to all questions should stay home. These are important precautions designed to limit the spread of the virus.

The leaders of the Diocese of Albany Catholic Schools and the Capital Region BOCES public schools met over the weekend and are united in our belief that schools are the best place for children to be during the day. Last spring, we saw the effects of closing schools for all in-person learning. So far this year, we have seen that schools can open safely amid this pandemic.

We are continuing to monitor the situation closely and will adjust as our local circumstances warrant. If you have any questions or concerns, please do no hesitate to contact me.

Let us continue to pray for the health and safety of our school family. May God continue to watch over and protect us as we embark on 2021.

Sincerely,

Kiante E. Sone

Mr. Jones Principal Notre Dame-Bishop Gibbons School

Accredited by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York And the AdvancED North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI)

