



July 27, 2020

Dear Northpoint Family:

Many of you have reached out to share how you are praying for wisdom and discernment for me and our administrative team. We are thankful for your continued prayers over our decision making process and our 2020-2021 school year. We are beyond grateful for your unwavering support during this unprecedented time!

I am writing to reassure you that we will open with on-campus, in-person learning for 900 of our 960 total students on August 11! We will start the year with about 60 students as remote learners. Every health care professional that I have spoken with has shared that it is important for schools to open. We remain committed to being open for in-person learning.

We are hearing the announcement of many large, public school districts who do not believe they can manage on-campus learning. Northpoint Christian School is a small, independent school and because we are not a public sector school, our Head of School and Board of Trustees are empowered to make decisions in the best interest of our families without interference or micromanagement from a state department of education, a legislature, or a school district office. Our families strongly value education and are committed to the personal safety of others. We are asking you to stay committed to protecting ourselves and others, and to follow our outlined protective measures so we can accomplish our goal of having a great school year. We will all need to work together.

As a reminder, we are doing the following to protect everyone's health:

1. We have renovated space for three additional classrooms in the upper school to accommodate our additional teaching staff and keep classrooms small. We have also added classrooms in the lower school to keep classrooms small.
2. We have created smaller classroom sizes to ensure physical distancing. Most classes are below 18 students in a class. School-wide, our average class size is approximately 14 students per class.
3. We have purchased an additional 12 tables to be able to physically distance our students during lunch. Upper school students will be divided into 5 lunches instead of 3 for physical distancing.
4. Some of our hallways will be designated as "one way" to disperse students to large spaces during transition times.
5. We purchased an outstanding cleaning product that will kill infectious diseases. It will be used during the day in high-touch areas and in the evenings. Our

cleaning service will also be doing a deep cleaning daily. We have purchased additional cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer for each classroom.

6. For grades pre-first through 12, masks will be required on arrival, departure, in transition within the building(s) and common spaces, or when physical distancing is not possible. Physical distancing and the lesson being presented by the teacher will dictate the use of masks during instruction.

7. Table dividers are being made and purchased to allow students to sit at tables together in classrooms where tables are used instead of desks.

[Click HERE for our Complete Fall Re-entry Plan.](#)

At this time, the CDC states that anyone "within six-feet of another person for greater than fifteen minutes without a mask," could be exposed to COVID-19. This is part of our reasoning as to why we must be diligent about wearing masks where we can't be physically distant. We will monitor and strongly enforce this guideline to limit exposures and keep on-campus learning available to everyone.

I have read and re-read Joshua 1, numerous times this summer. For some reason, I can't move past this chapter. I am trusting the Lord, more than ever, for wisdom and guidance in all decisions that have to be made. It is good to be able to trust the One True God in times such as this. I am committed to being a "strong and courageous" leader, who will seek the Lord, and trust Him for guidance. I will not waiver in my commitment to the Lord, although I do, and will make mistakes. I will own my decisions and correct them, when necessary. I will not be afraid nor become discouraged. Our God is a BIG God "who is able to do exceedingly and abundantly more than we could ever ask or think." (Ephesians 3:20) His promise of being with us "wherever we may go" is all I need.

I invite you to join me in being a leader at home, work, church, and in our community, just as Joshua was when Moses died. Let us "be strong and courageous," together! I believe we will see and do amazing things together, this year because, "God, goes with us, wherever we go." Thank you for the trust you have placed in me and our team. We can't wait to see you August 11!

Jim Ferguson
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BE STRONG
and courageous!

DO NOT BE AFRAID
OR DISCOURAGED

FOR THE
Lord your God,

IS WITH YOU
WHEREVER YOU GO.

Joshua 1:9