

## **QUESTIONS ANSWERED**

### **Q- "What will happen if someone who has been on campus tests positive for COVID-19?"**

A- With our small classes and pod set up, we will be able to determine those who have come in close contact with someone on campus who has been diagnosed. In accordance with the Spokane Regional Health District, we will contact all individuals who may have been exposed. The class and/or pod and teacher(s) that came in contact with the individual will be considered close contacts and need to be quarantined for 14 days.

We will have a designated space on campus to isolate anyone who becomes sick during the school day until they can be picked up.

Those who are ill will be required to remain home—both staff and students. Because we know that a number of students will stay home throughout the year, we will be well-equipped for sick students (if they are able) to still attend class remotely and not fall behind.

### **Q- "Why do we have to do distance learning since Southside is a private school?"**

A- We are a state approved and accredited school; however, we do have a choice to make our own decisions about what is best for our school community in some circumstances. Regulations must be followed according to state law, while recommendations are expected to be followed, but not mandated or required by law.

Regulation: If the state sets a law, such as requiring all schools in Washington, public and private, to follow the OSPI regulations outlined in the document titled, "Reopening Washington Schools 2020" , " all schools that want to open for in-person learning on their campus must comply.

Recommendation: When a recommendation is made, we have a choice. At this time in Washington state, all schools are asked by the governor and OSPI to follow the recommendations made by their local health districts. Our SCS Administrative Team and Executive Board is then responsible to pay attention to the recommendation of the Spokane Regional Health District and then make a decision for our school community. As a leadership team, we have decided to be an **A** rated school when it comes to student health, safety, and

academics. We will keep the health and safety of our students and staff at the center of all of our decisions and be good citizens of Spokane County. At this time, Washington state has set the levels of transmission risk of COVID-19 into three levels: High Risk, Moderate Risk, and Low Risk. We will be able to attend school in person when Spokane County is at either the moderate or low levels.

**Q - "I am concerned about screen time. How much screen time will my child have each day?"**

A - We understand that screen time is a concern. This will vary for each grade and will be determined by distance learning stamina of engaged learning, age appropriateness, etc. Our teachers are working hard to provide a learning environment that is engaging but gives students breaks as needed. For example, a kindergarten student and 8th grade student will have live sessions that look very different from each other.

**Q- "When Southside is able to meet in-person and I need to pick up my student for an appointment, how will this be handled?"**

A - We want to limit the number of people who come into our building so that we can provide the safest environment for all of our students and staff. If you need to pick up your student, you will come to our front doors and ring the doorbell. Through the intercom system, you will tell us that you need to pick up your student. Our office staff will then reach out to the classroom to get your student and they will come to the door to meet you. We ask that you please stay outside.

**Q- "Are masks required?"**

A - As per the OSPI guidelines, all students, staff, and visitors must wear a mask or shield while at school. This is a requirement to enter the school building.