



OUR LADY
of
GOOD
COUNSEL
HIGH SCHOOL

LEARNING THROUGH COVID-19

Parent & Student Guide

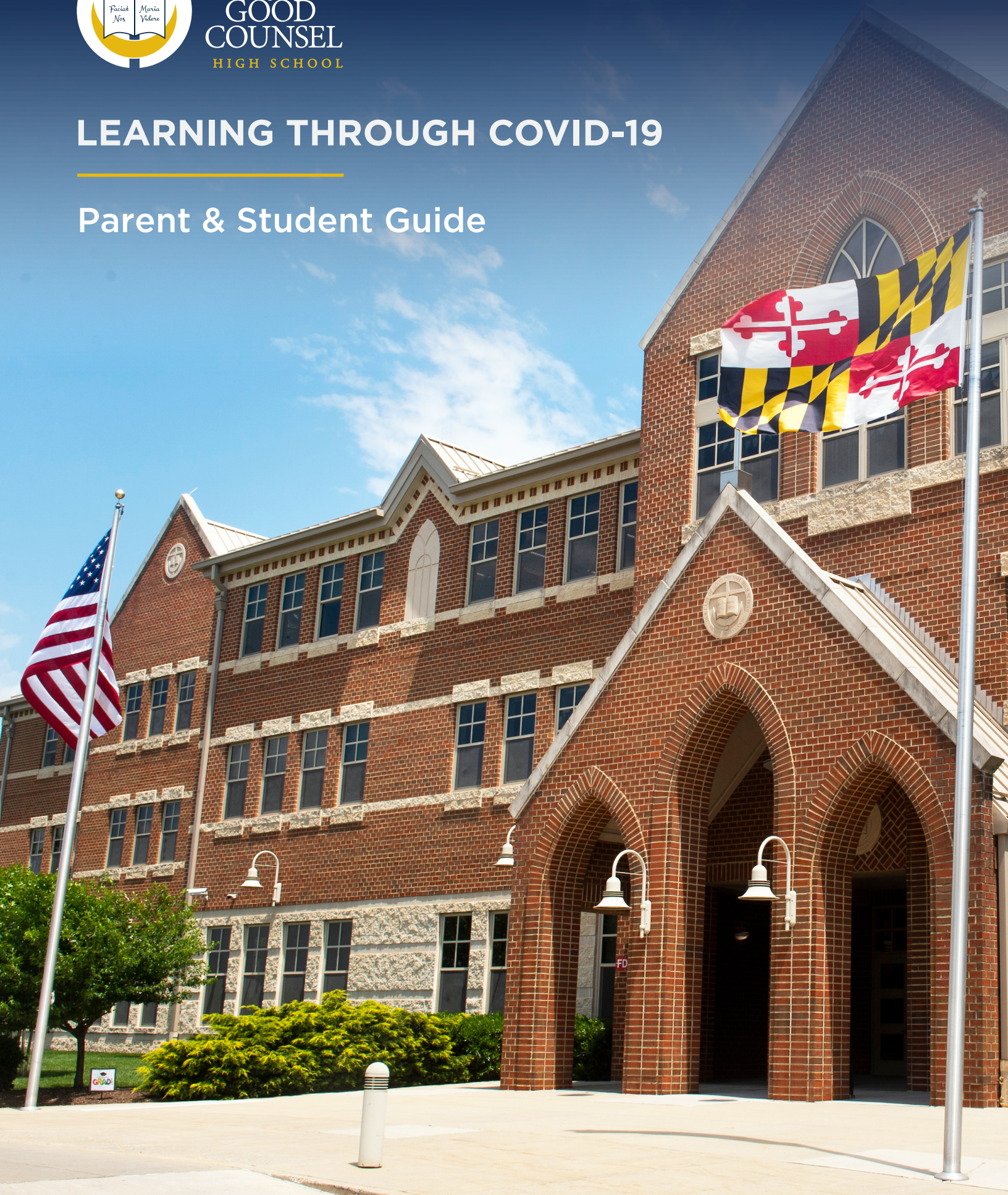


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INTRODUCTION

In April, Governor Larry Hogan unveiled his plan for a safe, effective, and gradual approach to reopening public life and the economy of Maryland. The State of Maryland is now in the final stage of Hogan's three-phased recovery plan, outlined in his "**Maryland Strong Roadmap for Recovery**." Montgomery County continues to remain in phase two of this plan.

Good Counsel continues to prioritize the health and well-being of our students, faculty and staff as we plan to reopen in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Good Counsel will abide by CDC guidelines and the *Learning Through Covid-19 Parent/Student Guide* details how we plan to balance our desire to reopen our school with the need to keep all students safe to the greatest extent possible. This plan, which pulls from parent surveys, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and The Maryland State Department of Education, highlights the responsibilities of students and parents and outlines the steps Good Counsel is taking to address COVID-19.

This guide has been developed to assist students to return to campus and to achieve the following objectives:

- Ensure we take reasonable precautions to provide a safe environment for our students in our building.
- Utilize lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic to modify and/or enhance our operational procedures with new best practices and/or governmental requirements.
- Adjust the plan as needed, incorporating new information, lessons learned and best practices.

While Good Counsel will implement various protocols to prioritize safety, it's up to each student and parent to execute these protocols daily. Our objective is to clearly communicate our plans moving forward, highlight school protocols in place to protect your safety, and establish a level of comfort for all of us as we work together to facilitate the return to school.

Our knowledge and understanding of the virus that causes COVID-19 continues to evolve, and our plans and procedures will be updated as more information becomes available.

TEACHING AND LEARNING AT GOOD COUNSEL

ORIENTATION & FIRST DAY OF CLASSES

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13 Freshmen Orientation

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 SAT testing for Seniors

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15 First day of in-person classes
Students begin the 25% attendance cycle

25% HYBRID MODEL DETAILS

Attendance is alphabetical by student last name.

In order to maintain appropriate social distancing in classrooms, hallways, and during arrival and dismissal, Good Counsel will start in person learning with a 25% hybrid model.

OCTOBER 2020 (25% HYBRID MODEL - ON CAMPUS SCHEDULE)						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
11	12 COLUMBUS DAY (NO CLASSES)	13 FRESHMEN ORIENTATION	14 SAT TESTING FOR SENIORS	15 A-G	16 H-L	17
18	19 M-R	20 S-Z	21 A-G	22 H-L	23 M-R	24
25	26 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY	27 S-Z	28 A-G	29 PSAT TESTING FOR JUNIORS	30	31

If our processes hold up and our students are faithful in masking, distancing, and other safety measures, and if we do not experience any major setbacks, we may be able to make a smooth and prompt transition to a more desirable 50% hybrid model.

50% HYBRID MODEL DETAILS

Attendance is alphabetical by student last name.

In this model, students with last names A-K will come to campus on Days 1, 2, 5 and 6 of our eight-day cycle. Students with last names L-Z will come to campus on Days 3, 4, 7 and 8 of the cycle. On days when students are not on campus, they will utilize our Zoom Room technology to synchronously log-on to classes following the usual daily schedule as published in the Student/Parent Handbook. Further details regarding the Hybrid model may be found in the Distance Learning Plan posted on MyBackpack.

(50% HYBRID MODEL - ON CAMPUS SCHEDULE)						
	DAY 1 A-K	DAY 2 A-K	DAY 3 L-Z	DAY 4 L-Z	DAY 5 A-K	
	DAY 6 A-K	DAY 7 L-Z	DAY 8 L-Z	DAY 1 A-K	DAY 2 A-K	

DAILY SCHEDULE: CLASSES BEGIN AT 8:30 A.M. AND END AT 3:15 P.M.

ARRIVAL

Students arriving on campus before 8:10 a.m. will gather in a socially distant manner in the Dining Hall and Litton Gym. At 8:10 a.m. students will be released from the Dining Hall and Litton Gym to their first period class.

- Students who arrive on the Dining Hall side of the school will be directed to the Dining Hall to wait until classrooms are open.
- Students who arrive on the Kane Center side of the school will be directed to the Litton Gym to wait until classrooms are open.
- Students who arrive via the main entrance may choose to go to either the Dining Hall or Litton Gym.
- Students arriving after 8:10 a.m. will be directed to proceed to their first period class.

DISMISSAL

Good Counsel will utilize a staggered approach to dismissal according to the following schedule:

- Bus riders and student drivers 3:15 p.m.
- Carpool students 3:25 p.m.
- Students not being picked up until later will be dismissed to the Dining Hall at 3:30 p.m.
- Athletes will report to the Litton Gym to be released in a staggered manner for workouts.
- Students participating in other activities will report directly to the location of their meeting.
- All students must be picked up by 6:00 p.m. to allow for nightly cleaning and disinfecting of the building.

ACTIVITIES

Clubs and activities are encouraged to consider using digital platforms for meetings and activities. Students should check the Daily Bulletin email communication for updated information regarding clubs and activities such as Speech and Debate and Theatre.

VIRTUAL ONLY

Good Counsel will be prepared to move all students to virtual-only instruction based on a state or local decision about school closures as a result of an increase in COVID-19 spread. Details regarding this scenario may be found in the Distance Learning Plan posted on MyBackpack.

All families will have the option to choose a distance learning-only format.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Campus Ministry programs play an important role in the life of our School. The Campus Ministry Team will be working on creative ways to provide high quality experiences through a variety of different in-person and digital platforms.

ATHLETICS

- The WCAC Conference will not sanction any contest, events or championships until at least January 1, 2021.
- Member schools are free to train, condition, or practice for any sport as particular jurisdictions allow and an individual school deems safe.

PREPARING TO RETURN TO GOOD COUNSEL

All students and parents are expected to comply fully with the policies, protocols, and guidelines outlined in this document.

We ask parents to:

- Read this guide.
- Read and sign the Return to Campus Waiver in Magnus indicating compliance with the outlined behaviors designed to keep our campus community safe.

We ask students to:

- Read this guide.
- Read and sign the Community Responsibility Pledge in Magnus.

SCHOOL PROTOCOLS TO FOLLOW WHEN RETURNING TO GOOD COUNSEL

Good Counsel has implemented various protocols designed to preserve the health and safety of students when we return to school. This section further explains these protocols. For additional information, please contact [Marianne Kusbit](#), School Nurse.

SYMPTOM MONITORING REQUIREMENT & TRACKING

Each day, students are required to complete a daily COVID-19 Questionnaire to assess their risk and record the status of their self-screening. A date specific certificate will be emailed to the student indicating if they passed or failed the screening. All responses will be tracked by: those who failed, those who did not complete and those who passed.

Good Counsel will be checking each student's certificate of completion prior to entering the building each morning. After self-screening, students exhibiting any concerning symptoms should not come to campus; they should stay or go home and contact their primary healthcare provider. They should then follow any instructions given by the healthcare provider before returning to campus.

A list of free test sites in Montgomery County can be found [here](#).

WELLNESS

Good Counsel recognizes these are challenging times and they impact us all and our community in different ways. Good Counsel is committed to providing support for all members of our campus community. Parents with concerns for their child's well being should contact their School Counselor.

CONCERNING SYMPTOMS

- Temperature above 100.4 degrees or greater
- Any of the following:
 - Chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea

The CDC is investigating cases of multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C) associated with COVID-19. Learn more about COVID-19 and multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C).

COVID-19 TESTING

Good Counsel is requiring COVID-19 testing for students, faculty and staff prior to return for in-person instruction. Testing will take place on campus and will be at the school's expense. Details about testing days and times will be communicated the week of September 28th, 2020.

VERIFICATION OF ILLNESS

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 parents must contact **Marianne Kusbit**, School Nurse immediately to inform them of the diagnosis. This is essential to protect faculty, staff and students and to ensure consistency in response, and to aid Good Counsel in its state and federal reporting requirements. Before returning to campus, a student who has tested positive for COVID-19 must provide a note completed by their health care provider indicating they are cleared to return to school. This documentation should be hand delivered to the Health Room for verification by the school nurse.

If a student tests negative for COVID and/or it is recommended by their physician that they quarantine, a note must be provided to Good Counsel by their physician. The note should include the negative test result, if applicable, and the date the student can return to school. This documentation should be hand delivered to the Health Room for verification by the school nurse.

Good Counsel will follow all CDC and Maryland Department of Health guidelines for a confirmed case of COVID-19 and persons with COVID-19-like illness.

TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

All students who travel outside of Maryland to a state with COVID-19 test positivity rate above 10% are required to get tested promptly and self-quarantine at home until the test result is received. The District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Virginia are exempt from this recommendation. A list of state COVID-19 test positivity rates can be found [here](#). Proof of a negative test is required to participate in on campus activities.

HEALTH AND SAFETY AT GOOD COUNSEL

Good Counsel has implemented various protocols designed to preserve the health and safety of students when we return to school.



Handwashing

Handwashing and sanitizing will be encouraged throughout the day and required before meals and before entering classes.



Face Coverings

Students will be required to wear face coverings at all times when inside and outside of the building.



Physical Distancing

There will be increased spacing in the building and in classrooms with fewer students in spaces. Classroom layouts and arrival and dismissal processes will be modified to maintain physical distancing. No lockers will be available.



Hand Sanitizer

Hand sanitizer will be provided, with hand sanitizing stations at building entrances, and in classrooms and shared spaces.



Training

Students and staff will receive training on COVID-19 prevention practices, including social distancing and face covering use. Signage and ongoing communication will supplement and reinforce training.



Classroom Capacity

The school has assessed and determined the capacity for each classroom on campus. Classroom capacity employs the 6 feet of physical distancing standard and provides space at the front of the classroom for the teacher. Capacity for each room will be posted on the door to each room.



Restrooms & Elevator

The number of students in the restrooms or elevators will be limited.



Visitors

Access will be limited to faculty, staff and students only.



HVAC System

The air circulation system in the building now uses high efficiency MERV filters.



No Supply Sharing

No shared materials or supplies are allowed.



Cleaning

Frequent cleaning and disinfecting of all high-touch areas.



Transportation

Good Counsel uses a third-party vendor for bus transportation. The following preventive procedures have been put in place by the contracted transportation company to combat the spread of COVID-19 including:

- Buses will be limited to 22 passengers.
- Requiring face coverings at all times on the bus for students and drivers.
- Allowing siblings from the same household to sit together in the same seat.
- Each bus will have hand sanitizer on board for students to use.
- School buses will be electrostatically disinfected after each trip.
- Drivers will wash hands before entering the bus and as needed.
- Drivers will fill out a daily COVID-19 questionnaire and if a driver shows symptoms they will have a mandatory 2-week quarantine.



SAGE Dining

Good Counsel will operate on a four lunch period schedule. Each lunch will be approximately 30 minutes in length. Seating in the Dining Hall will be arranged in groups of 5 or less to maintain 6' of social distancing at all times. The Faculty/Staff eating area will be open at limited capacity.

For more information visit:
[**www.olgchs.org/sagedining**](http://www.olgchs.org/sagedining)

FAQ's

What is COVID-19?

COVID-19, also known as coronavirus disease 2019, is caused by a new virus, SARS-CoV-2. While there are many types of coronavirus including some that cause the common cold, SARS-CoV-2 has not previously been seen in humans.

The virus that causes COVID-19 can spread from person to person, mainly through respiratory droplets that are produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Spreading the virus is more likely when people are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).

Will Good Counsel be taking temperatures of students, faculty and staff prior to entering the building each day when school opens?

Good Counsel follows CDC guidelines when making health and safety decisions for the community.

Good Counsel will not be taking the temperatures upon arrival to school, instead Good Counsel will be requiring all students to take their temperatures daily before coming to school.

What do I need to do as a parent before sending my child to school each day?

You should check your child's temperature each morning before leaving for school. This temperature check should be done before taking any medication. If the temperature reads 100.4 or above the individual is expected to stay home and follow proper attendance protocols. If the temperature is 99.5 and you are experiencing other symptoms (chills, sore throat muscle aches, etc) it is recommended that you stay home. If you have any questions, please call the Nurses in the Health Room for guidance at 240-283-3229 or 240-283-3225.

REPORTING CONCERNS

What happens if there is an outbreak of COVID-19 at Good Counsel? How or why will you decide whether to close a classroom or school?

Good Counsel will contact the Department of Health and Human Services and follow their guidance on closure, testing and self-quarantine. Good Counsel will be prepared to move into a fully virtual learning plan based on a state and/or local decision about closures as a result of an increase in COVID-19 spread.

How will you enforce wearing face coverings among students?

All adults and students will be required to wear face coverings in accordance with state and county guidance and administration at Good Counsel will be strongly enforcing this policy.

What is the difference between cleaning and disinfecting?

Cleaning involves the removal of dirt and impurities, including germs, from surfaces. However, cleaning alone does not kill germs. By removing germs from surfaces, their numbers are reduced, lessening the risk of spreading infection. Disinfectant cleaning involves the use of chemicals to kill germs on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs; killing germs remaining on a surface after cleaning further reduces the risk of spreading infection.

Ensuring the health and safety of all students is everyone's responsibility. If you have concerns about the health and safety of your child at school, we encourage you to discuss those concerns with school administration.



CONCLUSION

We look forward to having our Falcons return to campus this fall. The COVID-19 pandemic has created uncertain times and resulted in unplanned expenses and unprecedented changes to the school day. As communicated throughout this return to school plan, we are prioritizing the health and safety of our students every step of the way as we plan to reopen our doors. We will execute on our plan cautiously, following applicable state and local guidance. This plan has been reviewed and endorsed by medical professionals from MedStar Montgomery Medical Center. We ask that each of you be patient and understanding of the fact that the COVID-19 pandemic may require our return to school plans to change. You will be given as much notice as possible in the event of an unforeseen setback or school closure. While the strategies highlighted in this document are designed with the goal of protecting students against the COVID-19 virus, they are intended to serve as a supplement to the CDC's guidance.

THANK YOU

Please continue to follow all appropriate safety guidelines, and we thank you for doing your part in keeping our campus healthy and safe. Together, we will reduce the spread of the virus and make sure our Falcon community is safe and healthy.