



COVID-19 FAQ's

On March 12th, Saint Joseph Academy decided that it was in the best interest of students and staff to move spring break from April to March 16-20 and transition to remote learning, starting on Monday, March 23rd until further notice. In keeping with the CDC's recommendations to contain the spread of the virus by avoiding mass gatherings, **all extra-curricular activities, including sports, have been postponed or cancelled until further notice.**

Does SJA plan to alter its Easter vacation schedule currently planned for April 9–13?

Easter Break has been slightly modified and will begin on Thursday, April 9th and conclude on April 12th. Distance Learning will resume Monday, April 13th.

When will SJA resume classes back on campus?

Cameron County has implemented a “shelter-in-place” order that runs through Wednesday, April 8th and Easter vacation will run through April 12th. At this time, the campus will be closed and Distance Learning will continue until further notice.

Has any student or faculty/staff member tested positive for COVID-19?

As of today, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 among any students or faculty/staff members.

How will Distance Learning work?

Although our students have been engaged in the learning process without live instruction and a set schedule, we are initiating Phase 2 beginning on March 30th. This new phase will require teachers to communicate live with students consistently throughout the week at the designated time outlined in the “Revised Schedule” Letter sent on March 30th. Teachers will use variety of platforms including Zoom, YouTube, and PlusPortals. Teachers will share specifics with students and families.

What should students do if they have questions regarding a particular course or assignment?

Questions about a particular course should be addressed to the teacher directly.

Will students be able to speak to their counselors?

Yes, counseling will be available to students, as needed. Students should email their counselor with questions or to schedule a face to face meeting (via Zoom) or a phone call. Detailed information will be made available to students and families through email, as needed.

Will any of the school's facilities (gym, fields, buildings) be made available during the distance learning period?

No. The entire campus is closed to students, families, and outside community members.

Will the school offices be open during the distance learning period?

There will be a skeleton team of staff members on campus for a short time during weekdays to help maintain school operations. All questions and concerns should be related to the appropriate parties digitally, via email.

My child and family still has service hours to complete, how do those get turned in or completed if opportunities are limited now?

As the situation with COVID-19 changes, SJA will evaluate the service hour requirements and adjust if needed.

In regards to the Parent Volunteer Service hours already worked this school year, if you have not turned in your form to receive credit, please submit an email to Donna Barron at dbarron@sja.us with the following information:

Parent's Name:

Student's Name:

Project/Event you worked on:

Number of hours you worked:

Name of person who supervised you on the project:

Deadline for submitting this information is **Friday, April 10th**. Once submitted, you will receive your \$200 credit for tuition on your next billing cycle.

If you were planning on completing your hours on a project that has been postponed/canceled due to the COVID-19 situation, parents will be given opportunities to participate in volunteer projects in the coming months when social distancing requirements have been lifted.

Which events, sports, and activities will be canceled?

ALL school events, activities, and trips, both on or off campus, have been postponed or cancelled until further notice. This includes all athletics (games, competitions, tournaments, practices, and workouts).

What if my family is impacted financially as a result of the COVID-19 situation and closures?

SJA is always available to work with families experiencing financial troubles. Please contact the principal, Melissa Valadez at mvaladez@sja.us or the president, Michael Motyl at mmotyl@sja.us.

Will there still be a Baccalaureate and Commencement Program for the Class of 2020?

At this time, all graduation activities are still on track to take place in late May. As the situation around COVID-19 changes, we are prepared to take any necessary steps to maintain public health and safety standards, which may include postponement of graduation activities.

Who should I contact if I have additional questions?

If you have other questions or have any concerns, you can email the principal, Melissa Valadez at mvaladez@sja.us or the president, Michael Motyl at mmotyl@sja.us.