

BACK *TO* SCHOOL:

An Overview of Our Plan for the Fall



**FREDERICKSBURG
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**

Educating Christian Leaders for Life

*A scripture passage that all of us know well, Proverbs 3:5-6, is one of the greatest helps for us in uncertain times. We don't have to **"lean on our own understanding"** of anything, but we can totally depend on God to **"direct our paths."***

As an FCS family, we have all learned together to do that in new ways over the last four months, and we need to do it even more in the coming months as we find His path for returning to school this fall. Our complete trust is in Him, and He will show us the path that is best and safest for our students.

This document provides most of the details for our families for coming back to school in the fall. It is the product of hours of prayer, abundant wisdom from the Lord, input gleaned from our parent surveys, and guidance from many state agencies and associations. We sense strongly the need to get children back in school, so the policies, procedures, and processes contained here reflect that sense.

We fully recognize the broad range of convictions and feelings that drive each family's response to this pandemic. Some proceed with an abundance of caution, while some are ready to move on, leaving pervasive caution behind—and that brings me to the importance of appreciating our differences and truly respecting the opinions and actions of other families. Philippians 2:3-5 says, **"Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind, let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; do not merely look out for your own interests, but also for the interests of others."** In all of this, our kindness toward each other will be a great example to our children.

So, our strategy for moving forward as a family—the FCS family—is to trust God in all things, and to follow His path. Thank you for the support you have already demonstrated, and thank you for your support for your students in the months to come.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Yost".

Rick Yost
FCS Superintendent



On-Campus Learning



Our plan is that students will come to campus each day for meaningful learning experiences, enriching community, and exciting activities. On-campus learning will look similar to what students are used to, with minor changes to help minimize the spread of illness.

What will be the same:



Engaging Curriculum

Our curriculum is not changing. Students will continue to make progress in the ever-important core areas of language, math, science, history, and Bible.



Exciting Activities

We will continue to offer as many enrichment opportunities and extracurricular activities as we are able.



Extended Care

Before and after-school care for students in PreK–Grade 8, in compliance with CDC recommendations



What will look different?

- **Measures in place** to prevent crowded areas and ensure students can maintain physical distancing at school.
- **Extra attention** to the mental health of our students, as well as their social and emotional needs during this uncertain season of life.



Online Learning

If needed, online learning will allow students to complete their coursework from home. Our goal is to hold classes on campus throughout the year, but we realize it may become necessary to switch to online learning for short periods of time. We understand that the idea of online learning can be overwhelming to some families. Be assured that our teachers and students will receive the necessary training to make this a smooth transition should the need arise.



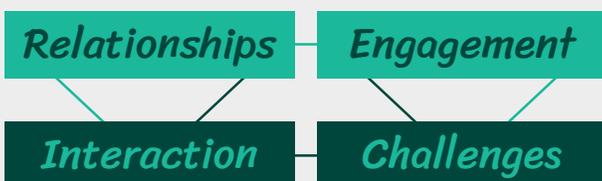
Students will spend the first few days of school learning the ins and outs of Google Classroom, as well as other age-appropriate online learning resources.



Teachers will continue to receive professional development training on effective teaching strategies and available resources for online learning, including the use of video instruction.



Our Priorities for Online Learning



What technology will be used/required?

- iPads/Laptops (Students may check out a laptop or iPad from the school if needed)
- FACTS Family Portal for Grade Tracking
- Google Classroom for Assignments
- Google Meet for Interaction with Teachers and Classmates

A Safe Environment

What we're doing to keep everyone on campus healthy.



KEEPING GROUP SIZES SMALL

As always, we are committed to keeping our class sizes small and modifying gatherings and assemblies until those are safe to resume. Elementary classes will be capped at 20 students per classroom. Middle and high school classes with more than 20 will be held in areas larger than our normal classroom. All desks will face the same direction.



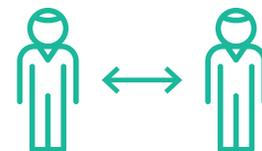
ENHANCING SANITATION

All buses, buildings, equipment, and facilities will be thoroughly cleaned on a daily basis (or more frequently as circumstances dictate). Common touch points will be disinfected multiple times a day, including classroom desks.



ENCOURAGING HYGIENE

Hand sanitizing stations are available throughout the school and each classroom will be stocked with disinfecting wipes. Students and staff will receive training in preventative measures such as social distancing, proper handwashing, and the correct way to cover coughs and sneezes. Water fountains will not be used at this time; we will provide water bottle filling stations instead.



PROVIDING DISTANCE

In order to closely follow VDOE and VDH guidelines, our goal is to maintain distance between individuals. All available space on campus has been measured and taken into consideration to maximize the use of our facilities while ensuring students can avoid crowded spaces.

LIFE ON CAMPUS

Planning for a Full Academic Year

FIRST

DAY OF SCHOOL

2nd–12th grades
August 17

Pre-K–1st
August 18

anticipated
LAST

DAY OF SCHOOL*

—
May 21, 2021

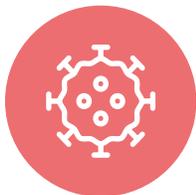


Who decides if further closures are necessary?

Fredericksburg Christian School is making decisions based on recommendations set forth by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), as well as the following organizations:

- Virginia Department of Education (VDOE)
- Virginia Council for Private Education (VCPE)
- Virginia Department of Health (VDH)
- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

These sources will help us make decisions regarding physical distancing, crowd size, and cleaning protocols, as well as the need for a transition to online learning. Our school is prepared to make informed decisions to protect the health of everyone on campus and equipped to communicate with parents and families throughout the year.



Preventing the Spread of COVID-19

- Each student will have their temperature taken upon arrival. This process is quick and touchless. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 or higher will not be permitted to attend school.
- Upper school students and lower school parents will answer symptom screening questions each day.
- We will need to limit campus visitors for the time being. Parents who come to campus will have a temperature screening.
- If a student or staff member has known exposure to COVID-19, we have procedures in place to provide the resources they need to work from home for a time.

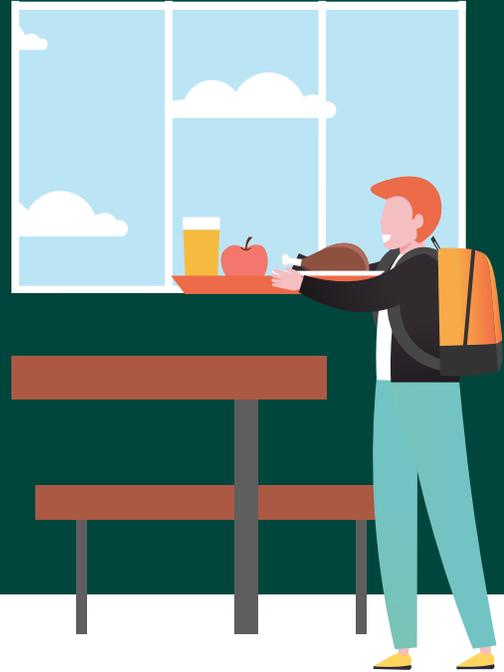
*Because we are prepared for both on-campus learning and online learning, we can accommodate interruptions without adjusting our academic calendar.

STUDENT SERVICES



Creating Safe Spaces for Students to Dine

Students at all grade levels will eat lunch in classrooms or larger spaces to avoid large gatherings



Providing Safe Athletics Opportunities

Workouts for fall athletics will continue as planned with a few modifications to ensure student and staff safety. Neither Virginia state athletic associations nor FCS' athletic conference have made announcements about whether or not games will be played this fall. Players will have temperature checks and all FCS coaches will be required to ask a list of COVID-19 related questions to each student-athlete individually prior to every workout, practice, or game. Parents will receive communication from the coach with additional details.



Maintaining an Engaging Experience Outside the Classroom

Clubs and other non-sport extracurricular activities will begin at the start of the second semester.

THE 4 STEPS OF OUR VIRTUAL ADMISSIONS PROCESS

Ready to learn how you can join the Fredericksburg Christian School?



STEP 1

Download your Parent Info Packet!

[Download Packet](#)



STEP 2

Request a Virtual or On-Campus Visit

[Schedule a Tour](#)



STEP 3

Submit an Application Online

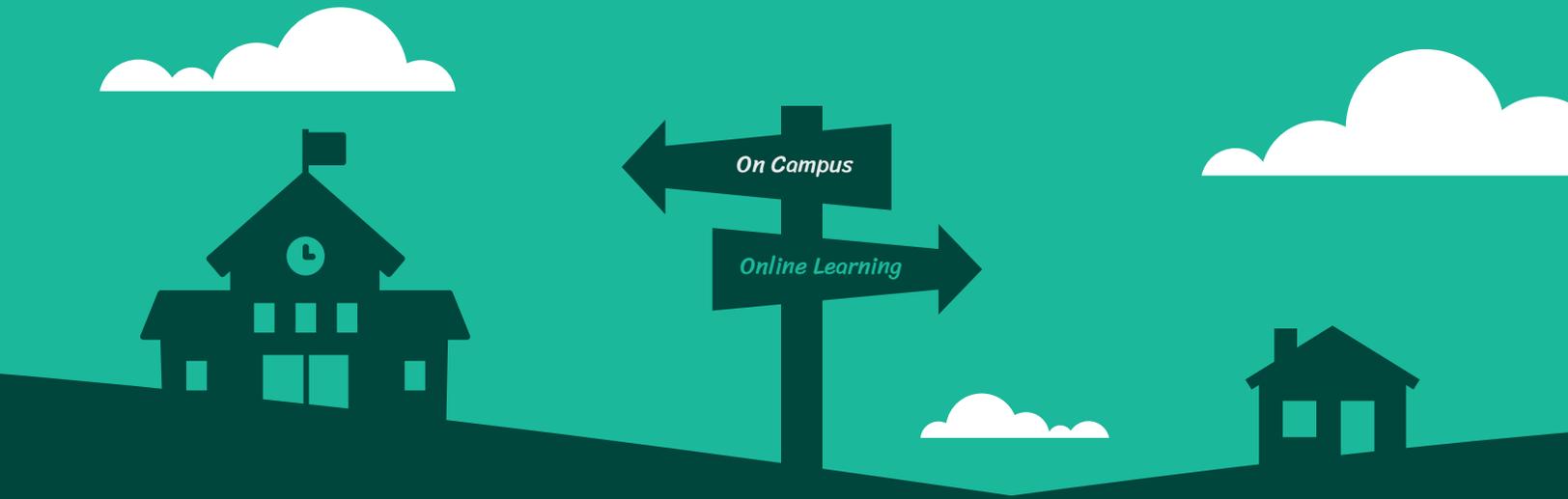
[Submit an Application](#)



STEP 4

Finalize Enrollment

We will contact you with an admissions decision and walk you through the steps to finalize enrollment.



Questions?

We're here for you! Contact our Admissions team for more information:

Contact:

Marie Stanley
Admissions Coordinator

540-373-5355

mstanley@gofcs.org



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