



## From the desk of **KIMBERLY A. DESOTELL** President, GRACE

July 31, 2020

Dear GRACE Community:

I hope your summer is bringing an opportunity to relax and enjoy family time while counting your blessings.

As mentioned in last week's letter, our GRACE Planning Teams have been working hard to create a robust Reopening Plan for Fall 2020 and beyond. I am extremely proud of all the hard work that has been accomplished, and we are now ready to share drafts of some of the key components of the plan.

GRACE schools have decided to open for face-to-face instruction for students five days a week. For families who may not be ready for that option, a virtual program is also being offered. Today's Reopening webpage includes the following updates:

- Building and Classroom Sanitation and Cleaning Protocols
- Additional Details Related to School Facility and Logistics
- GRACE Mask Protocol
- GRACE Virtual Program Summary: "Our Lady of Grace Virtual Academy"

Please know in future weeks we will share more details related to our "Continuous Learning Plan" that will be used should a governing body determine we will move into another "Safer at Home" mode.

All of these plans ultimately focus on the same goal and principle: the limited exposure and mitigation of COVID. Please know our Planning Teams have some additional areas to address, and we will continue to provide updates weekly each Friday. We appreciate you sending in questions via the question form on our Reopening webpage. You may view questions submitted and the answers weekly on the FAQ tab of this webpage.

On Monday, August 3, all registered families will receive a survey asking them to select either 1) face-to-face learning five days per week, 2) virtual learning from home or 3) a request for your principal to call you to discuss. Please make your selection and submit the survey by Thursday, August 6, at 12 noon.

Today marks our final day of the GRACE: Gold Summer Camp program. The four weeks of face-to-face programming were an overwhelming success! There were 25 unique courses. Student enrollment this summer was our highest ever with 145 students from 95 families attending. Courses were completed while social distancing and wearing masks when close. Feedback from families has been extremely positive and teachers involved were grateful to be able to be with students once again in person. I wish to acknowledge every teacher involved and the GRACE: Gold program director, Laura Blicharz, for the exceptional dedication to ensure a successful program. The success of our GRACE: Gold program certainly provides promise, hope and confidence as we open our doors for students this fall.

In closing, thank you all for your spirit of community as a member of our GRACE family. Although this extraordinary time requires great sacrifice, it also demonstrates our strength, together, focused on faith and learning for our students.

I encourage you to remain healthy and pray often — perhaps a bit more than usual these days.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kimberly A. Desotell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kimberly A. Desotell  
President, GRACE