

**OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN**  
Church and School

**2020-2021**

# 2 OPTIONS FOR K-8 LEARNING

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES IS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26TH, 2020.

Our Savior Lutheran School strives to provide a positive and Christ-centered learning experience for every child. While we are planning to have students back for in-person learning in the classroom in August, we also realize that some families will prefer distance learning to begin the school year as families may have extenuating circumstances that may necessitate an alternative plan for instruction. This document includes how we plan to accommodate all families while assuring that each child achieves the essential standards prescribed for their grade level by the State of Michigan. In the event that Our Savior, or the county health department, or the state determine (or mandate) that the entire school is to move to Distance Learning, this document will be our guideline for all students

Please note: Your child is a student at Our Savior, and as such, may participate in any Our Savior sponsored extra-curricular activity (music, sports, worship, etc.) whether your child is in class or at home with distance learning.

## **1. In-Person Learning Model (Overview)**

With enhanced disinfecting, health precautions, and distancing standards when possible, we are excited to welcome K-8 students onto our campus in August. Our teachers and staff are eager to greet and establish relationships with the students. First day of school experiences will include classroom activities and social interactions as we become reacquainted and readjusted to our familiar school surroundings and new differences in our setting.

Excited and caring teachers will provide direct instruction that supports and challenges each student in every classroom. The normal Monday through Friday school week will include the normal school day hours of operation: 8:15am (attendance bell) to 3:15pm (dismissal). Before and after-school care will also be available.

Students will have access to their own locker and desk during the school day. Students will report to their homerooms where they will have nearly all their learning throughout the day. The teachers will continue to utilize the classroom space in creative and engaging ways while implementing appropriate health and safety measures. On page three read more about the **K-8 STEAM initiative** that promises to engage our learners with projects throughout each trimester.

Specials will be offered to provide the whole-school experience. Art and Computer teachers will teach in the homerooms as they have done in the past. K-8 music will take place in the homerooms as well. PE will be held in the gym and outside as weather permits.

To begin the school year, our departmentalized middle school teachers will rotate grade 6, 7, and 8 homerooms to teach their subject area rather than having students transition classroom to classroom. Christian Studies teachers (Pastor Wangelin (8th), Mr. Wright (7th), Mr. Horak/Mr. Couser (6th)) look forward to sharing and teaching the faith as we do life together in the name of Jesus.

Though it may look different, students will quickly adapt to distancing norms while enjoying learning, faith sharing, and social interactions with teachers and peers.

## **2. Distance Learning Model (Overview)**

On an individual basis, families may request their child to attend school via the Distance Learning Model. The Distance Learning Model may also be used when a family chooses to keep their student home for an extended period of time because of illness or needed isolation.

Using Google Classroom, Google Meets, Seesaw and Zoom technologies, both live-stream and video recorded instruction will be available to access classes. Students will participate, interact, and receive classroom instruction in real-time or access it at their convenience.

A teacher will check in with online students daily via video or email. Teacher and parent communication will be vital to track student participation and progress. Attendance will be tracked through participation in classroom live sessions and participation with required assignments.

Daily devotions and live or recorded chapels will be available for Distance Learners. These are important faith formation experiences that complement our daily Christian Studies classes (memory work, bible stories, Luther's Small Catechism).

Distance Learners will need their own access to a computer and internet access. School computers and devices are reserved for on-campus learners while in-person learning is in operation.

Textbooks and workbooks will be made available at the beginning of the school year. Weekly packet pickup for learning materials will be available as well as digital resources through the Google Classroom platform.

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) projects will be posted on Google Classroom. The STEAM project is required and will include project criteria, a rubric, and a list of necessary supplies.

All assignments are required as they support the learning standards. They are to be submitted on the date specified by the teacher. Lessons and assignments will be posted consistently each week. Some assignments may be a project and will be submitted in the format requested by the teacher.

Our grading policy for distance learners will be similar to the in-person experience for each grade level. Assignments submitted daily/weekly will receive feedback and comments. Grading will continue for all core subjects on our traditional grading scale.

A Distance Learning Handbook will be developed which outlines details regarding this learning model.

**Please note: Should distance learning become a state or local mandate to keep students and faculty safe, Our Savior will shift to distance learning for the entire student body for the required amount of time.**

# School Features

## K-8 STEAM Initiative

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math) will continue to be offered to the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. It has been a highlight learning activity the past two years. **New this school year**, we are implementing **STEAM in grades 3-5** and in **grades K-2**. Teachers have been collaborating to create engaging learning experiences for the students. STEAM projects will meet state standards in all the subjects mentioned above. Multiple projects incorporating cross-curricular activities will occur each trimester. STEAM is available and required for both in-person and distance learners.

## K-8 Specials

- We will offer PE, Art, Computer, Music for in-person and distance learners.
- PE will be held in the gym and outdoors
- Art and computer, as is custom, will be held in homerooms
- K-8 Music (Choir) will be held in homerooms twice a week.
- 4th Grader Recorders will be held twice a week.
- 5th Grade Chimes will be held twice a week
- 6th Grade Chimes or Band will be held twice a week
- 7th/8th Grade Band, Handbells, Chimes will be held three times a week.

## Chapel

- Two chapels will be held on Wednesday in the Sanctuary
- K-8 Grades will be assigned a regular chapel time
- Worship guidelines, including masks and social distancing, will be followed

## Extra Curricular Activities

**School athletics** are subject to decisions made by the MHSAA, our athletic director, and principal. We hope to offer or re-imagine all our athletic teams and experiences.

We hope to offer **After-School Clubs** later in the school year.

## Our Savior Lutheran School

# K-8 Learning Tools

### TRAINING, TECHNOLOGY, AND DIGITAL PLATFORMS

Our Savior has invested in additional teacher and student technologies and trainings for this upcoming school year.



#### **SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING**

Teachers have been training on caring for the whole child (spiritually, physically, and academically). They desire to build and strengthen relationships with teachers and students as well as social connections within the learning environment.



#### **ZOOM**

Video-based classroom. Students will be able to participate in live-stream as well as recorded instruction for increased individual learning.



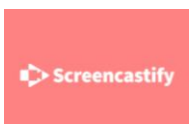
#### **GOOGLE CLASSROOM**

Video-based classroom. Students will be able to participate in live-stream as well as recorded instruction for increased individual learning.



#### **SEESAW**

Meaningful learning happens everywhere. This digital portfolio captures and stores student work accessible to teacher and parents.



#### **SCREENCASTIFY**

Teachers make learning more personal in their blended and flipped classrooms by recording full and/or bite-sized lessons, assignment solutions and explanations, and verbal student feedback.

The Our Savior Lutheran Church and School COVID-19 Response and Health Operations Manual and Our Savior Preparedness Plan contain more details regarding school operations for 2020-2021. In addition, the school will send out more information as it becomes available closer to the beginning of school.