

COVID-19 UPDATE

March 18, 2020

Saint Ursula Community,

Leila and I feel so blessed to be a part of the Saint Ursula Academy community at this unsettling time. We know that our decisions are coming fast and furious and we are grateful to everyone for your patience and flexibility. The decision to close the campus to our students after exams and to close campus to our adults as of Wednesday, March 18 at 3:00 was certainly a hard decision, but an important one aligned with CDC and Governor DeWine's Executive Orders. This ensures our commitment to contain the spread of the coronavirus within our community.

Travel Information

Tripadvisor has offered the following information to travelers.

As this situation rapidly evolves, there is an atmosphere of uncertainty as travelers wonder if they should change their plans. Tripadvisor launched a [new resource page](#) to bring all the latest COVID-19 travel information from trusted sources together in one place.

Saint Ursula Academy will not make recommendations regarding travel. However, if you do travel, the WHO, CDC, Ohio Department of Health, and Cincinnati Health Department encourage organizations to collect travel information from their community members. Given this, we will ask every family/student to complete a re-entry form prior to the girls returning to school.

Distance Learning Structure and Expectations

Starting March 19, each school day is REQUIRED for students. We will begin daily at 10 a.m. and end at 3 p.m.

[READ MANDATORY COURSE INFORMATION HERE](#)

- **From 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**, students will attend **Course Check-ins**.
 - **Attendance will be taken for Course Check-ins.**
- **From 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.**, Students engage in independent coursework

Here is [a link](#) to elearning best practices.

Technology, Broadband, and WiFi Access

Students experiencing technology issues should create a [helpdesk](#) ticket. Mr. Wilking and his team will respond to helpdesk tickets as soon as possible.

Spectrum is offering [free broadband](#) and WiFi for the next 60 days.

School Nurse

If you anticipate a need to pick up your daughter's medication, please contact Sara Utecht to arrange a pick-up time. sutecht@saintursula.org or (513) 961-3410 ext. 160.

Educational Services

Educational Services teachers will make every effort to provide online instructional support to students over the coming weeks. The ES Department is accessible each day (10-3) during distance learning. Please direct questions to your daughter's ES advisor via email.

Counseling

Our school counseling team is committed to the continual care and support of each of our students. School counselors continue to be in communication with students, families, and staff members via email. Please do not hesitate to contact your daughter's counselor should you have any questions.

State Assessments and AP Exams

The AP® Exam administration remains as scheduled for schools that will be open on May 4–8 and 11–15, with late testing scheduled for May 20–22.

Most schools have indicated they will continue with testing, though the situation is evolving daily. Students should visit the [AP® Exam website](#) to learn about flexible testing options. Beginning in early April, free online video lessons developed by AP teachers will be available for the AP topics and skills typically taught in the final weeks of each AP course. We will share that resource as soon as it becomes available.

Sports, Extracurricular Activities, After-School Programs

Sports, extracurricular activities, after-school clubs, and programs are canceled through April 6, 2020.

Sports:

1. The scheduled dates for spring OHSAA state tournament play (end-of-season district, regional, and final games) are not changing as of now.
2. There are NO ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES (which includes practices, scrimmages, clinics, training, conditioning, competitions, etc.) through April 5, 2020.
3. Practices can resume on April 6.
4. Competitions can resume on April 11.
5. During this timeframe, you CAN NOT participate on a club team or in a non-interscholastic competition in your spring sport. Even though all of our activities are suspended for the next three weeks, your participating in a lacrosse, softball, or track & field competition that is not school-based would be a violation of an OHSAA rule.
6. All SUA facilities are CLOSED until April 6.

Twelve Angry Jurors:

1. The production is postponed.
2. We are in talks with Ms. Utecht to find an acceptable time in the calendar in April to make up as many performances as possible.
3. Actors are asked to memorize their lines completely as soon as possible to prepare for performances to occur whenever we can get them on the calendar.
4. Crew members are asked to sit tight, be available on email and prepare to spring into "performance mode" as soon as we can get performance dates on the calendar. Ms. Jennings and Ms. Hinkel will be completing the work you started.

KAIROS: At this time, KAIROS scheduled for April 3-5 has been postponed. Ms. Caito has just started to explore options. Unfortunately, we do have additional information beyond this. Look for more information from Ms. Caito.

Spring Fling: The Flutter into Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show is canceled due to restrictions in place related to COVID-19. While we cannot gather as a group, we plan to hold the Grand and Boutique Basket raffles online. IF YOU REGISTERED FOR the FLUTTER INTO SPRING LUNCHEON, we will notify you soon with details on how to request a refund or how to convert your lunch registration into raffle tickets.

Father-Daughter Dance: The Business Office has issued refunds for the canceled Father-Daughter Dance. You should see a credit on your card within 7-10 days. If you paid by cash or check, a refund was mailed to you.

On-site Staffing

SUA will ensure continuity of services despite the campus being closed to all but essential staff. Dr. Thomas or Mrs. Kramer will be on campus during the mandated distance learning period. If you have needs during this time, please call Mrs. Kramer's Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Patrice Eby, at 961-3410 ext. 132. We are all in this together!

Decision-making Protocol

We continue to monitor and follow the guidance from the Hamilton County Board of Health, Ohio Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control. [Click here](#) for an interesting read about tracking COVID-19.

Cleaning and Disinfection

Despite the SUA campus being closed, our custodial crew is deep cleaning and disinfecting our buildings daily.

Keeping the SUA Community Healthy

Here are some healthy habits to practice during this time:

STAY connected – reach out to friends and family via skype, facetime, text, email, etc.

PACE yourself – balance stressful activities with fun

STAY positive- what good things do you have going on

TALK feelings- talk to people who you feel comfortable about how you are feeling

RELAX- try to stay present and do things that bring you joy

LIMIT media exposure- stay informed but know when to turn it off

Coronavirus Resources

SUA will continue to upload updates on a special section of our website dedicated to COVID-19 information. You can find the Coronavirus Planning and Information section on the homepage (www.saintursula.org) or under the Family Resources section of the site.

Please be sure that your daughter is carefully balancing school responsibilities with good self-care (i.e. taking a walk outside, stepping away from social media, etc.).

Watch for Updates

We will continue to send our weekly Parent Bulletin Fridays at 3:00 PM. COVID-19 updates will be sent as needed. Given the rapid pace of change, and the critically sensitive nature of the updates, please take time each day to check your email in the event we need to communicate COVID-19 updates and essential information.

Saint Ursula Academy is blessed with students committed to faith, integrity, and courage. Now more than ever, we are challenged to live the mission of Saint Ursula to *build a better world*.

Please take steps to ensure your own health, the health of those close to you, and your larger community. During this time, please join us in prayer for the world and our community.

Dr. Thomas