



# St. Serra Catholic School

**2021-2022 School Year Information**



Dear St. Serra Parents,

In preparation for the 2021-22 school year, I'd like to share some important information that will help us have another great year. I attribute the success that we experienced last year to our *mutual* efforts, and I ask for the same degree of partnership this year for the well being of all. We will continue our close monitoring of community and school conditions, as well as Diocese and State mandates and make adjustments as necessary. Our plans are drafted in such a way that we can easily shift to a more or less stringent operating strategy as needed.

I sincerely thank you for your continued support of Serra Catholic School. I commit myself and our staff to you with our very best effort for the benefit of our children. Thank you for being a part of Serra Catholic!

Sincerely,

Tim Tolzda  
Sr. Principal

### **2021-22 School Theme: 'I Am...'**

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6



**2021-22 Spirit Shirt**



## **Welcome St. Serra's New Teachers!**

- Miss Angeline McGown - Preschool Teacher 3 Year Olds (M/W/F)
- Mrs. Elizabeth Oh - 1st Grade Teacher
- Mrs. Kathleen Murphy - 2nd Grade Teacher
- Mrs. Lisa Aguirre - 3rd Grade Teacher
- Mrs. Kim Biasca - Creativity Lab Teacher TK-Grade 4
- Mrs. Teri Schulist - Music Teacher TK-Grade 4
- Mrs. Morgen O'Connell - 5th Grade Homeroom/Religion/Social Studies
- Mr. Chris Gray - 6th Grade Homeroom/6th and 8th Social Studies
- Ms. Kirsten Swanson - 7th Grade Homeroom/ELA
- Mr. Mark May - 5th - 8th Grade Advanced Plus Math
- Mr. Shaun Supernaw - 5th - 8th Math/Science

*A more in-depth introduction of our new teachers will be shared in an upcoming St. Serra Sunday News.*

## **New Assignments**

- Mrs. Elaina Stokes - Assistant Principal Grades 5-8
- Mrs. Jill Pierce - Preschool Teacher Young 4s
- Mrs. Jessica Miyashiro - PreK Teacher
- Mrs. Elizabeth Gosch - 1st Grade Teacher
- Ms. Kristine Haas - 4th Grade Teacher
- Mrs. Tricia Crowe - 2nd/4th Grade Small Group Teacher
- Mrs. Joleen Bassett - 8th Grade Homeroom/Religion/Social Studies





## 2021-22 School Calendar

- The Professional Development Minimum Day will be on Wednesdays for the 2021-22 school year:
  - 11:30 a.m. Dismissal - Preschool - Grade 2 and
  - 12:10 p.m. Dismissal - Grades 3-8

[View 2021-2022 School Calendar](#)

## First Week of School

### Monday, August 23

- 7:10 - Student Arrival
- 7:10 - 9:00 a.m. - Open House
  - This is an opportunity for parents to visit classrooms, take pictures, meet other parents, etc. This will be the only day that parents will be allowed to walk their child to the classroom due to our school being a closed campus.
  - Please keep masks on during this time.
- 9:00 a.m. - Parents leave Campus
- 11:30 a.m. - TK- Gr. 2 - Dismissal
- 12:10 p.m. - Grade 3-8 Dismissal

### Tuesday, August 24

- This will be a full day of school

### Friday, August 27

- Spirit Shirt Day - All students are to wear their 2021-22 spirit shirt. The shirts will be distributed in their classes prior to Friday. Please contact Carol Miller at [cmiller@serraschool.org](mailto:cmiller@serraschool.org) if you did not receive one.

## Student Picture Days

- Tuesday, October 5 - Grades 1-4
- Wednesday, October 6 - Grades 5-7
- Thursday, October 7 - 8th Grade (In graduation robes & graduation group photo)
- Monday, October 11 - MWF and M-F Preschool, TK and Kinder
- Tuesday, October 12 - T/Th Preschool & Makeups



# 2021-2022 Opening Guidelines

## Diocese of Orange Updated Health Guidelines

The Diocese of Orange has released the Updated Health Guidelines for the 2021-2022 school year. As a school within the Diocese of Orange, we are required to follow the guidelines set forth by them. Below, you will find a letter from our Superintendent, Dr. Erin Barisano, explaining the guidelines that will be in place this school year. Please note, these guidelines apply to all students in Preschool through Grade 8 and are subject to change. Click [here](#) to read the full letter.

## St. Serra Health Guidelines for the 2021-2022 School Year

### Masks

- Students in all grade levels, TK-8, are required to wear masks indoors. Preschool students ages 2 and above must wear a face mask indoors.
- All adults are required to wear masks when sharing indoor spaces with students.
- Masks are optional outdoors (recess, lunch, or outdoor PE) for all students, staff and adults.
- If a student is in need of a mask, please make one available for them.
- Students are not allowed to attend class if they are not wearing a mask.

	2021-22 School Year	2020-21 School Year
Temperature Checks	NO	YES
Social Distancing	NO	YES
Desk Shields	NO	YES
Masks Indoors	YES	YES
Masks Outdoors	OPTIONAL	YES
Cohorting	NO	YES

### Physical Distancing

- Physical distancing requirements are not necessary when other mitigation strategies are implemented (i.e. masking).

### Cleaning

- Cleaning once a day is usually sufficient enough to remove potential viruses that may be on surfaces.
- If a facility has had a sick person with COVID-19 within the last 24 hours, proper cleaning and disinfecting of the spaces occupied by that person will be conducted.

### Visitors

- All visitors to campus must be masked, regardless of vaccination status.

## Quarantining

- Staff members and students with symptoms of COVID-19 infection should not return for in-person instruction until they have met California Department of Public Health (CDPH) criteria to return to school for those with symptoms:
  - At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and
  - Other symptoms have improved; and
  - They have a negative test for SARS-CoV-2, OR a healthcare provider has provided documentation that the symptoms are typical of their underlying chronic condition (e.g., allergies or asthma) OR a healthcare provider has confirmed an alternative named diagnosis (e.g., Streptococcal pharyngitis, Coxsackie virus), OR at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset
- Quarantine recommendations for: unvaccinated students for exposures when both parties were wearing a mask, as required in K-12 indoor settings. These are adapted from the CDC K-12 guidance and CDC definition of a close contact.
  - When both parties were wearing a mask in the indoor classroom setting, unvaccinated students who are close contacts (more than 15 minutes over a 24-hour period within 0-6 feet indoors) may undergo a modified 10-day quarantine as follows. They may continue to attend school for in-person instruction if they:
    - Are asymptomatic;
    - Continue to appropriately mask, as required;
    - Undergo at least twice weekly testing during the 10-day quarantine; and
    - Continue to quarantine for all extracurricular activities at school, including sports, and activities within the community setting
- Quarantine recommendations for: unvaccinated close contacts who were not wearing masks or for whom the infected individual was not wearing a mask during the indoor exposure; or unvaccinated students as described above.
  - For these contacts, those who remain asymptomatic, meaning they have NOT had any symptoms, may discontinue self-quarantine under the following conditions:
    - Quarantine can end after Day 10 from the date of last exposure without testing; OR
  - Quarantine can end after Day 7 if a diagnostic specimen is collected after Day 5 from the date of last exposure and tests negative



## Home Room Lists and Academic Placement

- Parents will receive an email on **Friday, August 13** with a link for Homeroom Lists.
- Parents of students in Grades 2-8 will receive Academic Placement Letters in the mail beginning the week of **August 16**. Placement Letters will include student login information for CANVAS for Grades 3-8.

## Student Drop-off and Pick-up

*(Preschool Students: Mrs. Reiss will give you this information at your preschool orientation)*

**Arrival:** Student Arrival will begin at 7:10 a.m.

### **Dismissal:**

- **TK - Grade 2:** Dismissal will be at 2:00 p.m. on full days and 11:30 a.m. on minimum days. Pick-up will be at the drive through lanes on Avenida De Las Banderas. *The Later Gator program* will be provided for students who have siblings or carpool members in grades 3-8. This will accommodate parents so they will not have to make two trips to school for dismissal. There will be no charge for this program. Extended Care will be open for TK-2 at 2:00 p.m and 11:30 a.m. on Wednesdays. Parents using the traffic pattern cannot enter the driveway on Banderas until 2:10 pm. due to our Early Dismissal for students in Grades TK-2.
- **Grades 3 - 8:** Student dismissal will be at 2:40 p.m. on fulls days and 12:10 p.m. on minimum days at the Chapel Gate for walkers. Parents will not be allowed onto campus prior to 2:30 p.m. Additionally, we are asking parents not to gather in the front office reception area and remain outside.
- **Parents coming early to pick-up children**
  - Please keep in mind the importance of keeping your child in school and not missing seat time. When a request is made to retrieve your child from the classroom to leave school early it is time that they cannot make up. Additionally, this is disruptive to the classes. Please try and make appointments after school.
  - If there is a need to pick up your child early you will be asked to remain outside of the building until your child arrives at the front reception area.

## Walker Passes

To obtain a Walker Pass students must live within a 1.5 mile radius of the school to be granted a pass. The request will be verified through FACTS. [Download Walker Form](#)

## Field Trips

Field trips are currently on for the 2021-22 school year.

## Athletics

Athletics for Grades 5-8 are currently on the 2021-22 school year.

## Student Lockers

Students in Grades 5-8 will be assigned lockers for the 2021-22 school year.

## Live Streaming/Distance Learning Option

We will not be offering students the option to Live Stream or Distance Learn at this time.

## Technology

### St. Serra 1:1 Chromebook Program

All St. Serra Students in Grades Three through Eight will be issued a Lenovo **300e Chromebook** for their use in the school's 1:1 program. The new Chromebooks were selected for its features, ease of management, and price. In order to become familiar with the Chromebook and software utilized by the school, the school has implemented a Boot Camp Training Program, which has been updated this year to include Chromebook and Canvas information.

All students in Grades 3-8 will complete the Chromebook section of the Boot Camp with their teachers on the first day of school. Students will learn how to use and care for their new Chromebook, as well learn about the various functions and capabilities of their device.

For students who did not attend St. Serra last year, we ask that they complete the "Canvas Student Orientation" of the Boot Camp before the first day of school. This section is intended to show students the "ins and outs" of Canvas and give them an overview of how to use our school's Learning Management System, Canvas. This training is completely self-guided and students will work through it at their own pace. Students will watch instructional videos and work through a series of tasks or challenges to help them to be successful with the equipment this school year.

- [Logging into Canvas as a Parent](#)
- [Logging into Canvas as a Student](#)

Information on accessing the Boot Camp materials will be mailed to all families by the end of the week of August 9. All Boot Camp instructional videos and resources will be available to both students and parents throughout the school year in both the Canvas course and on our school's St Serra EdTech TV YouTube Channel. Once in the course in Canvas, please feel free to send a message to Mrs. Angela Johnson, Boot Camp Director, if you have any questions or need assistance.

Please email [tech@serraschool.org](mailto:tech@serraschool.org) if you have any questions regarding the school's 1:1 program.

## Volunteer Service Hours

The Volunteer requirement for the 2021-22 school year is **40 hours**. Please reach out to Diana McCarron at [dmccarron@serraschool.org](mailto:dmccarron@serraschool.org) for additional information.

The PTO Team will be sending out a Constant Contact this week providing dates and details about upcoming PTO Sponsored Events and opportunities to sign up for volunteer hours. In addition, they will be hosting a **Volunteer Fair on Thursday, August 19** in the Student Activity Center (gym). Stop by between the hours of 8:00 am to 10:00 am, and/or 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm, so you can learn about all the PTO Events taking place and find opportunities to get involved. Questions? Contact our PTO: [serrapto@serraschool.org](mailto:serrapto@serraschool.org)

## **Lunch/Snack Bar**

Choice Lunch will be providing students with our hot lunch program again this school year. [Learn more](#) about Choice Lunch.

## **What Does St. Serra Expect from Parents?**

We realize that the parents are the primary educators of their children. At Serra Catholic we want to achieve Academic Excellence and help develop the Catholic Identity of each child. To assist in the academic development and spiritual development of each child, we encourage the following:

- Support the school rules and encourage your child to follow the school rules.
- Trust and respect school personnel and the decisions that are made for the entire school community.
- Be aware of what is happening at Serra Catholic. Read the weekly Sunday News and messages coming to you from our school.
- Be sure to have your child in school and on time. Anytime that your child is late and seat time is missed it is time that cannot be made up. Excellent attendance is a must!
- Utilize CANVAS, our Learning Management System, to track your child's attendance and academic progress.
- Communicate positively to your child's teachers and other school personnel during phone calls, emails and in-person meetings.
- Follow the chain of command when situations arise that need to be addressed.
- Participate in parent conferences.
- Volunteer at school and participate in our fundraising opportunities.
- Celebrate Mass together on Sundays, Holy Days of Obligation, and when we have Mass at school.
- Pray together as a family and talk about God and faith.
- Don't put any unnecessary pressure on your child. Remember, they are children and they need to enjoy school and their friends.

## **What Should Parents Expect from St. Serra?**

- Good and timely communication
- Great customer service
- Being good stewards of your money
- Creating a safe and welcoming environment for your child.
- A Curriculum that is ...
  - Guaranteed and Viable
  - Faith filled and aligned with our Catholic values and Gospel teachings
  - Aligned with the State Standards
- Provide first class facilities
- Equality. Every Child and family at our school is important!