BROTHER RICE HIGH SCHOOL

Tom Reidy President

Dear Brother Rice Parents,

Recently, some area schools have moved to full-time virtual instruction due to an uptick in COVID-19 cases. At Brother Rice, we have experienced an increased number of positive tests compared to the beginning of the school year, but not to a level that would force our campus to close. In all instances, these positive cases were transmitted outside of school. The protocols that have been put in place at Brother Rice appear to be working, but they are not perfect. It is important for us to continue our vigilance, and I would ask that you reinforce the school safety protocols with your son – properly wear your mask, practice social distancing, and wash your hands regularly.

As a family, please continue to be diligent after school and on the weekends. We rely on our entire school community to work together to prevent the spread of COVID-19. It is important to stay home if you are experiencing symptoms.

We continue to have the goal of providing in-person learning for the remainder of the school year. Regularly, both Principal Okuniewski and I are in contact with the Archdiocese of Detroit regarding the pandemic and school safety. There has been no indication that we would need to change our inperson learning model now or in the near future. Strategically, we have introduced Distance Learning Days to mitigate the possibility of COVID-19 spread and are fully prepared to continue this practice during the second semester. Due to the challenges resulting from the pandemic, it is likely students may need to be quarantined in the future. Therefore, we will be implementing a modified midterm exam and make-up schedule. Please read a letter from Mr. Okuniewski regarding the midterm exam schedule.

I am proud to report that, despite all the distractions of this school year, the quality of instruction and academic rigor at Brother Rice remains appropriately strong. This is due to our faculty's commitment to excellence. Great teachers take the time to plan engaging and effective classroom lessons. With that said, this has been an arduous school year for our teachers due to calendar changes which results in consistently altering from in-person learning, to distance learning, and sometimes a combination of both. I would like to acknowledge our teachers for the innovation and responsiveness that each has demonstrated this year and to thank them for their dedicated service to our students.

I hope that you find time to enjoy this beautiful fall weather over the weekend. The snow will be here before you know it. Stay healthy and safe.

LJIOH. Forever!

Mr. Thomas J. Reidy President



BROTHER RICE HIGH SCHOOL

Ed Okuniewski Principal

Due to the challenges resulting from the pandemic, students may need to be quarantined in the future. Therefore, we will be implementing a modified midterm exam and make-up schedule. Student mid-term exams will be 60 minutes in length for this semester only and will follow the schedule below:

Exam Directions for Students

1. Exams will take place Monday, December 14, 2020 through Thursday, December 18, 2020.

Monday, December 14 Period 1 – 7:50-8:55 (5 min. for prayer & announcements)

Period 2 - 9:05-10:05

Tuesday, December 15 Period 3 – 7:50-8:55 (5 min. for prayer & announcements)

Period 4 – 9:05-10:05

Wednesday, December 16 Period 5 – 7:50-8:55 (5 min. for prayer & announcements)

Period 6 – 9:05-10:05

Thursday, December 17 Period 7 – 7:50-8:55 (5 min. for prayer & announcements)

Period 8 - 9:05-10:05

Friday, December 18 Make-up exams by permission only

- 2. During exams, students are required to stay in the room for the entire 60 minutes. Students should bring study or other material to keep themselves occupied.
- 3. If a student has a study hall, lunch period or free period at a particular period of the day, he is not required to be in school at that time.
- 4. The ARC will be open for **silent** individual study:

Monday, December 14 ARC open 7:00am to 5:00pm
Tuesday, December 15 ARC open 7:00am to 5:00pm
Wednesday, December 16 ARC open 7:00am to 5:00pm
Thursday, December 17 ARC open 7:00am to 10:00am

Friday, December 18 ARC closed

- 5. The Student Entrance and D-Wing Entrance will open at 7:35am.
- 6. Students who arrive before 7:35am must report directly to the ARC.
- 7. At 7:35am, the ARC will close, and all students must report directly to their first exam.
- 8. If school is closed for any reason, the exams which were scheduled for that day will be given on the following school day and all other exams will be pushed backward. For instance, if weather cancels exams for Wednesday, then the exams scheduled for Wednesday will be on Thursday and those scheduled for Thursday will be on Friday. Students must be prepared to take their exams even if school is closed a day or two before the scheduled exam days.

<u>Note:</u> January 4, 2021 through January 8, 2021 will be Distance Learning Days (DLDs) for all students. In the event students are quarantined during the December midterm exams and the December make-up date, those students will make up midterm exams in person, at Brother Rice, afternoons of January 4-8. If necessary, detailed exam make-up information will follow.

Any additional second semester calendar information will be shared after Thanksgiving break.