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**From:** Fewel Teresa  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 10:24 AM

**Subject:** Updates May 7  
**Attachments:** EAP brochure.docx

### **School Leaders,**

The Executive Principals are beginning the work of looking at three important topics as we close out one year and begin another. The work will center on End of the Year Needs, Summer Tasks, and Reopening in the Fall 2020. Each topic representing a committee. The goal of these committees is to have a written document that can support and guide your efforts over the next 6 to 8 week (and possibly beyond!).

### **Unemployment Fraud**

The Archdiocese has been made aware of fraudulent claims being made for unemployment benefits using Archdiocese employee names. The Archdiocese is following up to find the source of these claims.

Should an employee should report it to the state. Also call HR to let them know, P: 206.382.4578

Here are the instructions from the state on how to report UI Fraud:

- 1) Call: 800-246-9763 to report it.
- 2) Fill out a form here: <https://fortress.wa.gov/esd/webform/contactus/?subject=3> [fortress.wa.gov]

### **Washington State Board of Education**

From Washington State Board of Education, Randy Spaulding is asking for [feedback from schools](#). These topics will be on the agenda for the May 13<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

- What are the outstanding issues for current seniors and for the current school year?
- What are the expected impacts on next school year and subsequent graduating classes?

In addition the Board is seeking your input on

If we return to normal!! If social distancing continues!!

What guidance, policy change, or clarification would you request the State Board of Education to consider in order to better assist districts in supporting students?

### **Stimulus Package K-12**

The stimulus package is completed. Dollars should be flowing to the state by mid-May and out to school districts by end of May. If you want to access these funds I would encourage you to contact your local school district and make your preference known. School districts should be reaching out to private schools but better to be proactive! At this time, all private schools within the boundary of the local school district where the private schools resides are eligible for funds whether they have previously accessed Title 1 funds. Local Education Associations (LEAs) are still getting guidance on these dollars.

### **C2P Newsletter**

The [Chancery to Parish Newsletter](#) (affectionately called **C2P**) contains a variety of information related to the operations and business of the Archdiocese.

### **Employee Assistance Program**

Just a reminder that the Employee Assistance Program is available to all employees and their families, even employees that are not covered by benefits. This may be a helpful resource to staff and families during this time of uncertainty. A brochure explaining the program is attached.

### **Graduation 2020**

A direct question to Superintendent Chris Reykdal was "What guidance is there for hosting graduations this spring?" Response, "First, schools are closed to any gathering of students and families at least through June 19 so no in-person

graduation prior to that date in accordance with the Governor's original order". Second, there is "no guidance" about how schools should or could do in holding alternative graduation ceremonies.

In conversation with the Governor about what schools need moving forward, the Superintendent is promoting the idea that flexibility is key and to avoid a one size fits all. The Superintendent spoke about a phased approach similar to the public sector. Some consideration could then be given to the size of the school and the ability to achieve the necessary safety precautions. More to come on this.

### **Roundtable Announcement**

The Governor has announced the formation of Roundtables. Chris Reykdal, Superintendent of OSPI, is forming a Roundtable planning group with subcommittees to support education and will appoint a private school representative to serve on the committee along with public school, community, business and public health leaders. This group is charged with determining the guidance necessary for opening schools in accordance with the orders from the Governor. The idea is to have by early June, a MUST DO list for schools and then a MENU of OPTIONS for schools. Topics already identified are the PPE needed, Social distancing required, number of students in a classroom, solutions on sanitation, closures if necessary, best practices for online learning and much more. Having private school representation ensures our needs are considered and provides valuable information for our decision making. These will be recommendations for us unless this work becomes part of the Governor's orders for schools being able to open.

### **Governor Press Conference Tuesday May 5**

Governor announced 3 advisory groups to guide the next steps:

- Public Health and Healthcare – To provide guidance and prep for second wave
- Economic Recovery – To create safe guidelines for recovery on who can open when and how.
- Social Support – To examine how to meet the increasing need for basic human services and address vulnerable and disparity

Each of these has a leader and is made up of members from across geographic locations, ages, gov/non-profit/community/business leaders who will help drive next phases.

The Q&A section rehashed much of what he said before. Of note,

- new guidance on phase 1 will come in the next few days
- counties that want a variance will need to request it and the request must be data-driven. (Spokane was denied its request because data wasn't showing low enough rates)
- still waiting on enough testing supplies. Governor reiterated how critical this is in moving to the next Phase.
- He shared that he is in discussions around anti-body testing, but cautioned that this type of testing is good for surveillance but not for palliative treatment. Just because someone has antibodies doesn't mean they are immune or couldn't pass it along to others. More to come.

### **Applications**

Thank you for completing the Federal Programs Participation application and the private schools renewal application. These documents are so important as we plan for the 2021 school year.

### **Resources**

All the information shared on our morning ZOOM calls can be found on our [Trello Board 19-20 Principal Meetings](#). There is a wealth of information to support distant and online learning, assessment and grading, CARES Act, Mental Health and Human Resources plus so much more. Happy Reading!

### **Prayerful Support**

The Corona Virus Task Force thought promoting this special novena would be of tremendous support to our Hispanic workers and community given it is a very vulnerable population with 3x the virus infection rate of other ethnicities:

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/national-novena-for-farmers-to-be-livestreamed-this-month-85512>  
<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/pope-francis-speaks-up-for-harshly-exploited-agricultural-workers-34962>

This aligns with the Feast of St. Isidore, patron saint of farmers celebrated on May 15.

It starts today!

St Isidore pray for us!

Blessings, Terri

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