



## PITTSBURGH CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

**Michelle A. Peduto**

Director of Catholic Schools  
Diocese of Pittsburgh  
mpeduto@diopitt.org  
Office: (412) 456-3090  
Cell: (412) 400-6257

June 2, 2021

Dear Catholic School Community,

The school year is coming to a close and what a year it has been. I am so very grateful to our teachers, staff, and administrators for the incredible commitment and dedication they demonstrated throughout this school year. For these individuals their extraordinary efforts started on March 13, 2020 and have not stopped since that date (to include evenings and weekends).

I also wish to thank our families for their patience and support during very uncertain times. Health and safety guidance changed from very quickly and without warning which required tremendous flexibility. Our families worked with our schools to find ways to bring the school into their homes as needed. Monitoring children online while working from home is no easy task. Please know that you have our deepest gratitude.

I received so many emails throughout this year requesting that we change our approach to this pandemic. Some wanted no restrictions, some wanted more restrictions, and some were in between. What is clear to me is that we all care deeply about the well-being of our students, faculty, and staff. In any unprecedented situation of this magnitude, everyone does the best possible with the information they have at the time. The focus for our Catholic schools was to do all we could to keep everyone safe and to provide our students with the best education possible (in person and virtual). We lived our belief that “Nothing is impossible with God” and we prayed and worked without ceasing.

It is our expectation and sincere hope that the 2021-22 school year will be far less restrictive. We are looking forward to our state reaching the 70% fully vaccinated threshold and that is likely to occur in June. With that in mind, we expect that masks will not be required in the fall. I must add that this will be dependent upon information we have as schools opens. I expect there will be further information on contact tracing and quarantine protocols as well. Look for

finalized information in August. I know we are all looking forward to a return to school days similar to those before COVID! Praise God!

For summer program protocols, please reach out to the schools or organizations directly for their guidance on COVID protocols.

In closing, I send my heartfelt congratulations to our graduating seniors and our eighth grade students transitioning to high school. May your Catholic school education continue to light the way as you move on to the next phase in your lives.

God bless you all and may this summer bring you joy and peace.

With gratitude and love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle A. Peduto". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michelle A. Peduto