



GONZAGA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Changing Lives – Fulfilling Potential

October 30, 2020

COVID-19 Response Planning – 2020 UPDATE 2:

Schools remain Restricted Orange – Further GMS Plan Changes effective November 2nd

Dear Gonzaga Middle School Families,

Manitoba Public Health has raised the general public health restrictions in the city and Winnipeg Metropolitan area to Red (Critical) effective Monday due to the rising number of cases in the region. We realize this raises the level of anxiety in all of us. However, Manitoba Health and Manitoba Education have kept the COVID-19 Response Level in schools at Orange. **There continues to be almost no cases of virus transmission at schools in Manitoba so they are recommending schools continue to operate at the Orange level.** This means that we can still continue with face-to-face learning but we will now work to increase the distancing at school even more. This will help to limit the risks for both students and teachers and help to keep us all safer.

The main impact is reorganizing our classroom configurations to maximize physical distancing to 2 metres as much as possible:

- The Grade 8 classroom will be moved up to the gym space.
- The Grade 7 classroom will move to the multi-purpose room currently used by the Grade 8 class.
- The Grade 6 class (which is lower in number) will remain in their classroom.

There are no changes required to our busing protocols. Please remember that Phys Ed will take place outside weather permitting – **please make sure students are sent with warm clothes, boots, hats and mitts.** When gym takes place indoors the whole gym space will be used with special gym facemasks being worn. Please also remember that we have added another table group to maximize spacing during breakfast and lunch.

In school learning is the best way we can continue to support students. Regular attendance is the best way for students to make learning progress. However, in the current situation, it is vitally important that students who are not well or showing any symptoms stay home. If a student has to stay home for an extended period of time we will support learning from home through delivery/pick up of work and through on-line video links to classroom.

Contacting the school or requesting support

We want to be able to help students and families that need support, especially during this difficult time. If you have any questions or would like to request support please call the school at the main number 204-949-7100 or email us or by contacting me, Ms Andrew, Mrs. Mitchell or Ms Faulkner directly.

Thank you for your continuing patience, care and support during this time of challenge and change. Our students will continue to make progress and we will get through this difficult time with each other's support and care.

Sincerely,

Tom Lussier
Executive Director