



# GONZAGA MIDDLE SCHOOL

*Changing Lives – Fulfilling Potential*

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May 21, 2020

## **COVID-19 Response Planning – UPDATE 6(V.2):**

### **Recovery Learning Camps to Begin May 25, 2020**

Dear Gonzaga Middle School Families,

It has been four weeks since our last update and thanks to the work of people across the Province the pandemic curve has been flattened enough that Manitoba Health, as part of its “re-opening” strategy, has allowed limited use of school facilities going forward. **What this means is that we are allowed to bring in smaller groups of students, following social distancing, hand washing, surface cleaning and new food management rules for what we are calling “Recovery Learning Camps” beginning next week!** This will be a great opportunity for students to work directly with teachers and each other while maintaining social distancing at the school.

**We want students to come to their recovery learning camp but it is vital that students who are not well or showing any symptoms stay home.** The bus driver will ask screening questions before each student gets on the bus. Each student will also be asked screening questions by me or Principal Andrew before they enter the school. When students get off the bus they must line up with the minimum 2 meter physical distancing. We will have tape markers on the pavement as a guide. Similarly, when they enter they need to **maintain physical distancing** on the stairs and hallways and in the classrooms. They will be allowed to use the washroom only one at a time. They will need to use sanitizer or wash their hands when they arrive and frequently while they are at school. Masks will not be required.

We will be able to bring in two groups of students (on separate buses) at a time each day. **Each Gonzaga student will be part of either a morning or an afternoon small group with the daily recovery learning session lasting two and a half hours.** The focus will be on literacy (reading and writing) and mathematics. There will also be an activity break built in to the daily program. The groups will arrive at times separated by 15 minutes. For the morning **Group A will arrive at 9:00 am and leave at 11:30 am.** They will enter by the regular front door entrance and proceed to the lower level to use the larger break out room and Grade 8 classroom. They will also use the main washrooms. They will not be allowed to go to the second floor at all. The **second group (Group B) will arrive at 9:15am and leave at 11:45 am.** They will enter by the North Front door, go upstairs to the two classrooms and use the upstairs washroom only. They will not be allowed to go downstairs or to the rest of the school (**the two groups must remain completely separate according to the limited school use rules**). Morning groups will begin with breakfast in their spot and will receive a bag lunch when they are leaving the bus. The two afternoon groups will arrive and eat a bag lunch at their spot. The first afternoon group **(Group C) will arrive at 1:15 pm and leave at 3:30 pm.** They will use the North Door and the upstairs area. The second afternoon group **(Group D) will arrive at 1:30 pm and leave at 3:45 pm.** They will enter by the main door and use the downstairs area.

**Ms Faulkner will let you know the general time for your child’s camp session. Mrs Mitchell or her will follow up to tell you the bus time by phone.**

**After the first week, in addition to their in-school recovery learning camp activities students will be given some school work to do each day at home which they will return the next day.** Please encourage them to complete the daily at-home work.

Beginning Recovery Learning Camps means that we will suspend the remote learning activities (Edmodo and Zoom) and weekly drop-off pick up routines for now. If the situation changes and we will again be required to go back to remote learning only then we will return to what has been the practice for the last 8 weeks or so. **Please help us by making sure your child is ready for the bus as we will not be able to pick up students by car if they miss the bus.**

**No back packs are allowed and please wear your uniforms!**

**At Gonzaga Middle School we remain committed to providing our students with excellent learning opportunities and to supporting our students learning and development and our families' well being as much as we possibly can.**

#### **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.

#### **GMS on Facebook and Instagram**

In an effort to keep the community up to date more regularly we will begin hosting Facebook and Instagram pages. Please go to the pages to like us and follow us!

Facebook page: **@gonzagamiddleschool**

Instagram: **#gonzagamiddleschool**

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