



February 21st, 2021

Dear St Gregory's Families and Staff currently attending In-School Instruction –

We hope this letter finds you and your family well. As you may be aware, we have a member of our St Gregory's community that has tested positive for COVID-19.

Per our usual protocol with Waterloo Region Public Health, we have identified all individuals who are potential high-risk contacts. This process happens with every positive case and Public Health then follows up with the individuals and determines if they are high or low risk contacts. Any high-risk contacts are then asked to isolate so that there is no risk of any further transmission. We have been well served by this protocol throughout the fall and winter.

The number of people currently being assessed as potential high-risk contacts is such that we do not anticipate having enough staff to safely deliver program at St Gregory to begin the week (despite the fact that it is only one case at the current time). Therefore, we have decided that while the contacts are being assessed, we will close St Gregory's for Monday February 22nd and Tuesday February 23rd, 2021. This is not a decision of public health and is a result of only one case, but it is being made out of an abundance of caution and because we wish to ensure that we can safely staff the building.

We will notify you on Tuesday February 23rd if we are in a position to safely open the building for Wednesday, February 24th, but with most classes having had some exposure to the positive case, we anticipate we might keep the school closed until Thursday, March 4th. Please note that anyone who is a high-risk contact has already been notified by letter and Public Health will be in touch no later than tomorrow to confirm those who are high risk contacts.

We will have remote learning occurring throughout the closure, with teachers posting classwork for the day by 9:30 a.m. in the morning. If there are any further updates we will certainly share them as soon as possible. Please reach out to us if you need help or guidance, and remain confident that we are here to support you, as we walk together as a hope-filled community.

#InThisTogether

Sincerely,

Loretta Notten
Director of Education

Bryan Cinti
Principal
St Gregory's CES

