



Dear GPL Family,

While COVID continues to be a concern in the world, we feel it best to move forward in the 2021-22 school year as normally as possible so that we can most effectively carry out our mission of nurturing students as lifelong disciples of Christ. This strategy considers the fact that people our students' age and older have had the opportunity to receive the vaccine if they were so inclined. Whereas last year our approach was geared toward slowing/stopping the spread of COVID, now we are striving to responsibly live in a world that has COVID in it for the foreseeable future. The following details outline how we plan to approach COVID in the 2021-22 school year. We will continue to monitor the COVID situation and make any adjustments we feel are necessary along the way.

- We plan to operate with our full program of Christian education and activities open to our students.
- The wearing of face coverings will be optional in settings for which GPL is responsible for establishing policies and procedures.
- We do not plan to make any special accommodations for distancing between people in classrooms, the lunchroom, etc.
- In the event of a known COVID case among our students and staff, we do not plan to conduct detailed contact tracing nor require close contacts to quarantine for a specified amount of time. We will inform parents of the positive case in a general way and encourage the monitoring of symptoms in their children. If parents wish to know if their child was a close contact with the positive COVID case, we will do our best to determine this and inform them. It will be parents' discretion if they wish to voluntarily quarantine their child.
- We will treat positive COVID cases the way we treat other common contagious illnesses - students will be expected to remain out of school until they are fever-free (<100.4) for at least 24 hours and do not display significant symptoms.
- In the event that students remain home from school for a reason related to COVID, we will do our best to support their education at home. Google Classroom will be an important tool we use to do this. There should not be an expectation of fully live remote instruction, although some teachers may offer this approach.
- Everyone will be expected to practice good hygiene and work to make decisions that help prevent the spread of contagious illnesses with their own and others' best interest in mind.

May God bless our school year to his glory as we strive to "Build on the Rock" - our Savior Jesus Christ and his holy Word.

In Christ's service,
Mr. Bauer