

May 14, 2021

## Superintendent's Update: Students, Parents/Legal Guardians, and Staff

As <u>Catholic Education Week</u> comes to a close, we are grateful for the gift of publicly funded Catholic education. The verse from the Gospel of John, that will be read at mass this Sunday, "*Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another.*" (John 4:11) is a perfect illustration of what is unique and special about our Catholic schools. Created in the image of Christ, our students are truly cherished, as are the families we serve. On Thursday, May 13, 2021, we marked <u>World Catholic Education Day</u> by proudly wearing blue! This is celebrated annually on the day of the ascension of Christ. We thank you for believing in, and supporting Catholic education.

This week, all GSACRD students have been learning from home. The transition online has been smooth, as we work to minimize the disruption in the school year. If you are struggling with access to technology, please speak with your school principal. We continue to anticipate our return to face-to-face learning on **May 25, 2021**. We look forward to filling our halls with students very soon!

On May 13, 2021, Dr. Hinshaw announced that effective immediately, in order to verify that a person has a medical condition that prevents them from being able to wear a mask, they will need to provide a medical exception letter from a health professional (physician, nurse practitioner or psychologist). This is to ensure that everyone who is able to wear a mask, does so.

We will continue to adhere to the most current public health measures and update our <u>Parent</u> <u>Guidebook for School Re-Entry: 2020-2021</u> as well as our <u>website</u> and official social media channels (<u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>), which are also reliable sources of Division news.

Parents of grade 9-12 GSCARD students will receive a survey in regards to their preferred method of delivery for instruction next school year. In the 2021-22 school year, all high school students choosing online instruction will be served through <u>St. Gabriel Education Centre</u>. Students will no longer be able to connect to a face-to-face classroom via Google Meets as a primary form of online education. We thank you in advance for your completion of this survey, as it will help in our planning for next year, although we realize that much can change over the summer.

Although we will not be piloting the new curriculum in 2020-2021, we would like to once again remind our community members to "have your say" on the new curriculum and participate in the <u>Draft K-6 Curriculum - Public Feedback Survey</u>.

This week we keep the seniors who were displaced by the devastating fire at Citadel Mews in our prayers. The theme for <u>Catholic Education Week</u> was "*Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.*" (Isaiah 40:31). May the residents seek hope, courage, and renewed strength in knowing that their community prays for and supports them. Additionally, we are proud of our GSACRD students, who have been hailed local heroes for their efforts in helping seniors exit the building. What a beautiful example of service above self! Blessings for a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,

Dr. Clint Moroziuk Superintendent of Schools