

March 13, 2020 (10:00 PM)

Dear Frassati Families:

I am writing to update my previous communication to Frassati families sent earlier today.

At 1:00 PM today, Governor Tim Walz announced a public emergency for the State of Minnesota. He requested that gatherings of more than 250 people be canceled and that person to person interactions at smaller gatherings be limited. The Governor and the Commissioner of the Department of Health specifically declined to close K-12 schools. Based on that information, Frassati was prepared to resume classes as scheduled on March 16, 2020, as outlined in my earlier communication to you.

At approximately 2:30 PM today, I received information that the White Bear Lake Schools would be closed to students on March 16-17, 2020, though teachers and some other staff would be required to report to their assignments on those days for planning purposes. That information was officially confirmed to me by a district official later in the afternoon.

Based on the announcement of the White Bear Lake Schools and our reliance on the district for the transportation of many of our students, we made the decision to close Frassati Catholic Academy to our students on March 16-17, 2020. I communicated this decision to families via email on Sycamore at approximately 4:00 PM. Though the children will not be in the building on Monday and Tuesday, I have requested faculty and staff to be on site each day at 9:00 AM. During those days, we will confirm the teaching plans made during spring break and discuss the options available to us, given the conditions that present themselves over the weekend.

As I mentioned in my morning communication, the Frassati teachers spent part of their spring break planning for the possibility that spring break would be extended for one or more days. Because of their dedication and sacrifice, your child's education will go uninterrupted, despite the students not being in the building for these two days. I have asked each teacher to communicate with parents via Sycamore and describe the expectations for their students for Monday and Tuesday. Parents should see that communication no later than 8:00 PM on Sunday, March 15, 2020. I ask you to emphasize to your child that school is back in session as of Monday and that he or she is expected to stay current on assigned work.

I will update you over the weekend, should our plans change. Please continue to pray for the healing of the sick and the protection of all health care workers. May God bless our local, state and national leaders with the wisdom, humility and courage to make the best decisions for the common good.

In Christ,


Mr. Gallivan