



Bridgeport Catholic Academy

3700 South Lowe Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60609

9/13/2020

Dear Bridgeport Catholic Academy Family,

As you are aware, we had to quarantine three cohorts of students last week. We have been made aware of more cases, also related to non-school activities that will require the quarantine of additional cohorts.

As a result of these infections, we have decided the best course of action is to close the Bridgeport Catholic Academy school building for two weeks. While we believe these cases arose outside of school, out of an abundance of caution we will perform additional cleaning and disinfection.

Students and teachers will be invited to pick up supplies on September 14 and 15 on a schedule Principal Flaherty will communicate separately.

Remote learning for all students (P-8) will begin on Wednesday, September 16 and continue through September 25. Teachers will communicate to families about the remote learning plan for each class before September 16.

The school will reopen for in-person instruction on Monday, Sept. 28.

Students and staff who have been identified as having been in prolonged close contact with this individual have been notified via a separate communication. You and your child are not in this group. As a reminder, prolonged close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of an infected person for a total of 15 minutes or more. Those who had brief casual contact with an infected individual are not considered at great risk of transmission. As always, everyone should monitor their health and stay at home if they develop symptoms. Anyone who develops severe symptoms should seek medical care immediately.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever (temperature higher than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit), chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle/body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, nausea or vomiting and diarrhea. If you or your child develop symptoms of COVID-19, please contact your health care provider to discuss evaluation and testing. For severe symptoms, such as difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or difficulty waking, or bluish lips or face, please seek the closest emergency department or call 9-1-1 immediately.

Individuals sick with or exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home and away from others for at least 10 days since their symptoms first appeared and at least 1 day (24 hours) with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medications) and improved symptoms, whichever is longer.

The best way to ensure the virus does not spread is to take the preventive measures outlined by

the local departments of health. Avoid gatherings, wear face coverings in public, wash your hands frequently and monitor your family members for any signs of infection. For any additional COVID-19 questions or support, please visit your local department of health website for the most reliable information. The health and wellness of our staff and students are the highest priority of Bridgeport Catholic Academy.

As a faith community, we are doing our best to respond with compassion and prayer to everyone affected by the COVID-19 around the world, particularly those who do not have access to health care and community support. Please keep our community in your prayers and know that we are praying for you.

Sincerely yours,

Daniel Flaherty
Principal
Saint Gabriel Catholic School
& Bridgeport Catholic Academy