



Mission Statement: "St. Mary Catholic School, a ministry of Nativity of the Lord Parish, is committed to academic excellence and forms children into life-long disciples of Christ and responsible stewards of the parish, the community and the world."

Parish Mission Statement: "Nativity of the Lord, a Christ-centered stewardship parish, exists to welcome, to worship, to teach, to serve and to evangelize."

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Families,

All local districts within the Gratiot-Isabella Intermediate School District are working in conjunction with Dr. Morse, the Medical Director for District Health Department 10 and the Mid-Michigan District Health Department to provide the safest school environments possible. In attempts to reduce COVID-19 exposures, students with any of the following symptoms (new/different/worse from baseline of any chronic illness) will be required to be excluded from school:

- Temperature 100.4 or above or signs of fever (chills/sweating)
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache

While all or any of these symptoms could be the result of pre-existing conditions or other illnesses, Gratiot County is considered to be higher risk for community spread of COVID-19 according to the MI Safe Start Map (www.mistartmap.info). As such, extra precautions are necessary. If a student is excluded from school for any of the previously listed symptoms, the student should see a health care provider for further evaluation and/or be tested for COVID-19 (testing sites can be found at www.mi.gov/coronavirustest or by calling 211). Unless the student was a close contact to someone with COVID-19, the student may return to school if they test negative for COVID-19 or their healthcare provider diagnoses them with another cause for their symptoms. If the student tests positive for COVID-19 or is not able to provide another diagnosis from a healthcare provider, they must remain out of school for at least ten days since the symptoms first appeared and at least 24 hours without fever (without fever-reducing medicine) and symptoms have improved. I

To assist you in understanding the process required to return to school, a flowchart has been included with this letter. **The change is now anyone sent home with these symptoms needs to see their healthcare provider or stay home for 10 days if you choose not to be seen.** These protocols will remain in place until we receive other direction from Mid-Michigan District Health Department.

If your child has any of the symptoms listed above, please do not send him/her. Thank you for your assistance and understanding as we continue in our efforts to offer in-person learning through these challenging, but rewarding times.

Yours in Catholic education

Lisa Seeley

Flowchart for Handling Student Symptoms

