



St. Gregory the Great Academy

A Ministry of the Church of St. Gregory the Great

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Rev. Michael Hall, Pastor

Dr. Jason C. Briggs, Principal

Mrs. Michele L. Rivera, Assistant Principal

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 3, 2020

TO: All Parents, Faculty, and Staff

FROM: Dr. Jason C. Briggs, Principal

RE: **Operational Update #14**

September turned into October this week, and just like that, we find the midpoint of the first trimester on the horizon. The October Calendar/Menu is now posted on our website and available [HERE](#). Thank you to all for your flexibility with our delayed opening on Friday. The “flow” has been restored, so to speak. I suppose the smiles and giggles that most people could not hide when talking about this latest challenge to our year were some good comic relief in this very uncertain time we find ourselves in. 😊

Now, for some updates:

76. **Uniforms II** – (SGGA PE or Spirit Wear is required for inside!) In Update #13, I stated that we would be extending our modified uniform requirements through at least Thanksgiving. The purpose of giving this advanced notice was to assist everyone in planning what they need to buy or find. Please be reminded that all shirts and pants that are **kept on inside the school MUST be either part of the SGGA PE Uniform or SGGA Spirit Wear**. Hoodies, jackets, coats, etc. that are worn out to the tents or recess can be of any design, just as these items can be of any design when regular uniform regulations are in place. If the item is not going to be taken off once inside, however, it must be SGGA uniform or spirit wear. This policy is already far more relaxed than what I ever imagined being okay with due to our circumstances; please do not push these already expanded boundaries as the teachers have been instructed to enforce this policy with disciplinary measures. It is going to be colder inside this year as the temperatures drop because of the need for increased fresh air flow, so please plan accordingly. As an alternate, it is certainly acceptable to wear the regular dress uniform with its accompanying sweater or blazer if procuring PE Uniform or Spirit Wear is not possible at this time.



77. **Social Distancing/Safety Measures** – *(Must be maintained for everyone’s protection)* Developments over the past week have given support to the fact that the COVID-19 virus is still extremely virulent and that even lapses of short duration can have serious consequences. Clearly, many people are experiencing "coronavirus fatigue," that is, being tired of all of the processes and procedures that are designed to keep everyone safe. Our students are not immune to this fatigue, and I have noticed this mostly in the way that some students are having a difficult time maintaining social distancing when walking in lines. As a reminder, when moving in lines the students are to be single file and spaced at least an arm's length. This week at our faculty meeting, I instructed the teachers to stop moving any line that is not observing these protocols until the students are properly lined up. I would like to ask parents to reinforce this directive at home when discussing school. We are dealing with an airborne respiratory virus; our strongest defenses are controlling airflow and spacing. Please reinforce this at home as we do so at school.

78. **School Supply Payment Form** – As you know, all students who are enrolled for in-person instruction were provided with a canvas tote and all necessary school supplies. Students are now to be billed for the supplies for their individual grade levels. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to determine the total cost for your child(ren) and to complete the payment. Alternatively, you may print the completed form and send it to school with cash or a check. Payments for all in-person students, Preschool 3-Grade 8, are due by October 16, 2020.

79. **Parent/Teacher Conferences** – *(October 22 & 23 via Google Meet)* Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for October 22 and 23 this year, and due to the circumstances, the conferences will be remote via Google Meet. Prior to the conference dates, you will receive instructions from Mrs. Rivera about the electronic signup portal, PTC Fast.

80. **PTA Update** – *(Please see flyers under “News and Information” on the left side of our homepage)* Unfortunately, many of the traditional PTA activities will not be able to occur for the next few months. Still, our dedicated PTA has not stopped looking for ways to support the school and service its students in creative ways. Please see the separate flyers on our website or click below:

[A&M Pie Fundraiser - PTA](#)

[Krispy Kreme PTA Fundraiser](#)

81. **Scrip Program** – Now that we are entering October, I would like to remind everyone that families who have elected Category A Tuition are obligated to fulfill Agreement Provision "B," which states:

FUNDRAISING COMMITMENT & TUITION VOUCHER PROGRAM (TVP*): \$350.00 per family. The total of the school rebates for all Scrip purchases must equal \$350.00. Families who do not meet the \$350.00 fundraising commitment will need to pay the balance by June 1, 2021; families who exceed the \$350.00 fundraising commitment will receive a tuition voucher (credit/refund) equal to the excess amount over \$350.00 by June 30, 2021.

This applies to ALL FAMILIES who have a child K-8 and who have selected the Category A (lowest) tuition rate. If you have not enrolled in the program yet, please do so using [these instructions](#). With the reduced ability to conduct fundraising activities this year, this program remains **CRITICAL!**

Current Wish List

[Donations toward Penn Medicine arrival screening](#) -OR-

[St. Gregory the Great Academy Wish List](#)
(updated as needs develop)