



# St. Gregory the Great Academy

A Ministry of the Church of St. Gregory the Great

4680 Nottingham Way, Hamilton Square, NJ 08690

Voice: 609-587-1131

Fax: 609-587-0322

Web: [www.stgregorythegreatacademy.org](http://www.stgregorythegreatacademy.org)

Rev. Michael Hall, Pastor

Dr. Jason C. Briggs, Principal

Mrs. Michele L. Rivera, Assistant Principal

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 28, 2020

TO: All Parents, Faculty, and Staff

FROM: Dr. Jason C. Briggs, Principal

RE: **Operational Update #17**



This is a quick update to address the expected poor weather conditions expected as a result of the remnants of Hurricane Zeta. We have been extremely lucky so far with the weather this year, but it appears that our luck has finally run out.

Please note:

**90. Precipitation Procedure** – This is an update of Item #53 from Update #10. There is really no ideal way to make our process work when it is raining hard. If we start bringing people into the buildings in a haphazard way or letting them trickle in, we counteract the social distancing and grade level separation that is central to our safety procedures. These are unusual times, and we are going to have to “rough it” at times. If it is raining hard or there is lightning in the area, we will have to use “**Precipitation Procedure.**” Precipitation Procedure will have car rider students remain in their cars until grade levels are called, while bus riders will all gather in a sheltered location. There will be THREE screening locations, one at each entrance (A, B, C). Students will line up in their “SHELTERED LOCATION” and await screening. CAR RIDER students remain in their car until the GRADE LEVEL is called over the PA and texted via School Messenger. Students will be screened at their assigned locations. Car rider students will report directly to their classrooms once screened. All bus rider students will be screened at LOCATION A. Gr. 2-8 will report directly to their classrooms. Gr. K and 1 will stay with the bus duty teachers inside the stairwell and then be escorted to their classrooms. As you might imagine, Precipitation Procedure is the least desirable option, because it is going to take much longer and is more complicated. PATIENCE IS REQUIRED!

We cannot short-circuit our safety procedures when it rains. Remember that viruses are not sentient; they cannot cut us a break because it is raining hard or if we have another “good” reason. **Our grade segregation protocols are a powerful tool for us to use in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-**



**19 in school – they can be the difference between putting particular grades on remote instruction for two weeks and putting the ENTIRE SCHOOL on remote instruction for two weeks.** Thus, we must preserve their integrity. If it is precipitating, I will send a morning message via School Messenger that will let you know if we are using Regular Arrival or Precipitation Procedure.

Attached is a very professionally developed and plotted map.

91. **Halloween** – For all of the reasons I listed in the last update, it remains important that the students are able to have some sort of special way to celebrate Halloween. Thus, regardless of the weather students are still able to wear their costume (Preschool 3 – Grade 4) or theme outfit (Grades 5-8) to school on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Even if it rains, we will go outside and have the Halloween parade in the rain. KIDDING! In reality, each grade, Preschool 3 – Grade 4) will have an individual parade in their own hallway. This will occur one grade at a time so that we maintain distancing protocols and so that I may stream each parade on Facebook Live. The first grade’s parade will begin at approximately 10:25 am, and then we will proceed from there. The order will be Preschool 4, Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 3, Preschool 3, Grade 4, and then Grade 2. I cannot give you exact times, since we have never done this before, so we will just have to proceed and see how it goes.

### Current Wish List

Outdoor appropriate carpet to cover the muddy areas near tents. Something similar to [THIS](#) would be great, even if it is used and still in good shape. I am putting some more outdoor carpet on the wish list as well, as some very muddy areas are developing.

Donation of time/effort to rake leaves in any portion of our Tent City – anytime between the end of the school day and sunset. (BYOR)

[Donations toward Penn Medicine arrival screening](#)

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

### For Your Information

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

[Krispy Kreme PTA Fundraiser](#)

