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Dear Parents and Guardians,

I pray this finds you healthy and reaching out to each other to support and brainstorm solutions as we continue in this unknown future. As an educator and administrator for 20+ years, I have never been in this kind of situation. The school leadership team has been meeting to plan for the future and to address concerns of staff and parents. I ask for your prayers, support, and patience as we navigate the next three weeks of instruction, virtual learning, community building, and prayer. As announced last week, Saint Ignatius School will continue the educational process through the implementation of virtual learning beginning Monday, March 16. While the school building is closed, learning continues in a different form and mode.

Over the next few days, students will be exposed to various ways to communicate, complete their classwork, take tests and quizzes, research, and collaborate. They may begin to use crucial 21st-century skills and practices that have been employed in the business world for many years, like video conferencing. The teachers are working diligently to provide engaging lessons that are not overwhelming for the students and their parents.

A few announcements:

1. If your child needs a laptop/ipad to use as we implement virtual learning, you must contact our technology coordinator, Ms. Karis Bowman, at kbowman@saintschool.org. She will set up the device for your child and prepare the waiver that must be completed by the parent. Ms. Bowman will be available on Monday, March 16 and Tuesday, March 17 between the hours of 9 am – 3 pm. As stated, please contact before showing up at school to pick up the device.
2. If Covid 19 affects your family, we ask that you contact our school nurse, Mrs. Kathy Reder. Please let her know if someone in your family has tested positive or that they have been quarantined due to an exposure to the virus. This information will be used to help us track how prevalent it is in our community and to plan for the future of your child's education. You can contact her by email at kreder@saintschool.org.

Lastly, I wholeheartedly believe Saint Ignatius School and Parish is a strong and resilient community. While we must be away from each other for now, we are never alone or distant. I ask that you join me in praying for the Saint Ignatius community, our city, and the world.

Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced, Remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors, Remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home, Remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close, Remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips, Remember those that have no place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market, Remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home, Remember those who have no home.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,

Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors, friends, and family. Amen

May this time of lent continue to be a time of increased prayer and service to others.

In Christ's Peace,

Kevin Vance
Principal