

Email to all families and staff: March 12, 2020



Gray Academy
OF JEWISH EDUCATION

UPDATE: COVID-19 AND SCHOOL TRAVEL

Dear Gray Academy Families:

As we continue to monitor the evolving situation with COVID-19, safeguarding the health and well-being of our students and all members of our entire school community remains our top priority. While the public health risk in Canada remains low ([Government of Canada Public Health](#)), we have made key decisions regarding upcoming travel plans.

Out of an abundance of caution, and further to the advice of [Manitoba Public Health](#) to defer non-essential travel, we have rescheduled the Grade 9 Washington trip to October, 2020. We are also cancelling participation in all out-of-province debate tournaments scheduled between now and the May long weekend. As the situation is changing daily, this time frame may change. We will update families, as needed.

In-school policies and proactive procedures

As mentioned in my previous email (February 28, 2020), Gray Academy has sound protocols

in place, informed by our school health policies, our Pandemic Preparedness Plan and by information provided by the [Provincial Government](#), the [Government of Canada](#) and local health care professionals.

Later today, I will be participating in meetings with representatives from the Province, school superintendents and leadership from Manitoba Federation of Independent schools. We are all working together to take a proactive approach to the well-being of our school communities.

In addition, our leadership team will be meeting with the Asper Jewish Community Campus for a third time to review and discuss the continued proactive care of our physical building.

As a reminder from our previous email, the day-to-day good health of all our students and staff is supported by our partnership with you, our families. It is important for all of us to follow and reinforce sound hygiene practices at school and at home to inhibit the spread of illnesses.

These include:

- washing hands often;
- cleaning and disinfecting commonly used surfaces;
- covering a cough or a sneeze with a tissue or the inside of your elbow;
- staying home when feeling ill or with a fever;
- seeking assistance from a physician, as needed.

Students with flu-like symptoms should be kept at home. Depending on the nature and severity of illness, please take medical advice and only return your child to school when he/she is fit to do so. If a student becomes ill at school, our protocol is to advise parents immediately by phone and to take appropriate steps to ensure the well-being of the child and the school community.

Please be reassured that we will be sending continued updates, as needed. I thank you for your patience, understanding and cooperation as we navigate this evolving situation.

Please feel free to contact me or your principal should you have any questions.

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