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November 13, 2020

TO: Frassati Families
Frassati Staff

FR: Patrick Gallivan, Principal
Fr. Ralph Talbot, Moderator

RE: Decision of White Bear Lake Area Schools to move to Distance Learning

The Superintendent of the White Bear Lake Area Schools released a statement late today (Friday), announcing that all district students would be moving to distance learning, due to the rise in positive COVID-19 cases and the inability to properly staff their schools. The high school students were already scheduled to go to distance learning on November 17, 2020. Today, the district decided that middle school and elementary age students would also be moving to distance learning, effective November 30, 2020.

This decision from the district will have no effect on Frassati Catholic Academy for the next two weeks. Since elementary and middle school students will still be on their hybrid model next week (November 16-20), the transportation schedule will remain the same. We will have busing on Monday through Thursday and the parent drive day on Friday.

The following week is Thanksgiving week. We had already decided that we would have no classes the entire week. We will have our virtual parent-teacher conferences on Monday, November 23, as scheduled. The rest of the week, November 24-29, will be a much deserved Thanksgiving break for all students and staff.

Our plan at this time is to continue with in-person learning. During these next few days, we will consult with representatives of the White Bear Lake Area Schools regarding several issues, most especially transportation. Once we have clarity on the busing question, we will consult with Frassati staff and leadership regarding our school schedule and any other adjustments that need to be made in response to the district's decision.

The rising number of positive COVID-19 cases in our area reminds us of the need to be vigilant in caring for ourself and our family. We ask everyone to follow the safety protocols and ensure that people you or the children visit follow the protocols. This gives us the best chance of limiting the spread of the virus and keeping our school open for in-person learning.

We will be in contact with you next week as more information becomes available.