

## Covid rumors and knowledge in the middle school (From Anton Kramer)

**Our Lady of Guadalupe School Notifications** <notifications@getalma.com>  
Reply-To: Anton Kramer <akramer@guadalupe-school.org>  
To: Anton Kramer <akramer@guadalupe-school.org>

Wed, Oct 6, 2021 at 4:19 PM

Dear Middle School families,

As some of your middle school children might be sharing with you, we found out today that one of our students has tested positive for Covid. Thankfully, your child's classmate is already recovering from any symptoms and has not been on campus since symptoms began. As always, we do not reveal individual student/family health data where possible. The fact that some students are already texting and group chatting with each other may reveal more information than the family would appreciate at this time; please help direct your child's conversation this evening towards compassion and prayers for their affected classmate.

Unlike the 3rd grade class that was impacted earlier this year, the middle school classes **will not need** to quarantine at this time. Here are the reasons why this is possible:

- 1) Friday, Oct. 1st, the affected 6th Grade classmate was on campus, but no symptoms appeared until Sunday, leaving very low likelihood of time for potential spread.
- 2) Our safety protocols, distancing, and mask wearing were fully in place during all of Friday's classes. *"In a K-12 setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were at least 3 feet away from each other AND wearing masks AND other preventative measures in place."* (from [SKCPH](#)) This has been thoroughly evaluated by all teachers of the day, as well as with identified individuals, and with public health and archdiocese oversight.
- 3) In-depth contact tracing and adherence to the protocols and definition of school close contact (see above) has taken place. This happens through interviews with our classroom teachers, and with the affected family(ies). Our protocols includes eating snack/lunch at 6 foot distances, our air flow measures, and all the ways we move and work through the day.
- 4) The age of our affected student population matters...many middle school students have confirmed vaccinated status, AND our middle school students have been following distancing procedures very well.

Why do we go to these efforts to keep classes in session? We know that COVID is dangerous and can wreak havoc on our community health. We also know that disruption to learning and mental health is also a powerful and dangerous force that we contend with. By working together, we have done tremendous work in keeping out any spread of covid in our school. Thank you for your efforts!

If you are concerned about the steps we've taken and [want to do more](#), please consider the following... these are not required as we do not see any of our students as "close contacts" in this situation, but the short version of next steps would be either:

- a) Fully Vaccinated individuals with **no symptoms** do not need to quarantine and are simply asked to watch for symptoms (14 days after Oct 1st would be through next Friday, 10/15). Vaccinated individuals can also get a test as a precaution.
- b) Non-Vaccinated individuals with **no symptoms** may test and quarantine up to 10 days after last contact (that would be Monday, Oct 11th).... *this would only affect tomorrow's classes as we have Friday inservice with teachers and no class.*

Again, thank you for monitoring your child for symptoms as you do every day. For more information on COVID and testing read the [Fact Sheet here](#). Thank you for working together as the greater OLG family. Laura and I are your key contacts in the school office if you have any further questions, (206) 935-0651.

Yours,

Anton Kramer, Principal