

May 1, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Re: **REMINDER FOR COVID-19 TESTING OF GEORGE STREET MIDDLE SCHOOL**

As follow-up to the communication you received last evening. I would just like to express my thanks to everyone for your patience and community support.

We are aware there are questions regarding the need for **certain students and staff** (those tested Tuesday and Wednesday) to come forward for a second test. The reason for our re-testing policy is we have experienced throughout this pandemic a number of individuals who first tested negative who subsequently tested positive 5-10 days after the initial test and the uncertainties surrounding the B.1.617 ("India") variant requires increased vigilance.

This is a reminder of the importance of your cooperation with testing to ensure the safety of all students, staff and George Street Middle School families. The assessment centre is continuing to call individuals who must be tested a second time directly. It is imperative that you continue to follow public health direction. **For those who choose not to be tested, the isolation period may be extended.** We have the capacity to test everyone who needs to be tested and results back by end of day on Sunday, May 2nd in order to be able to inform parents of next steps tomorrow evening.

Thank you again for your full cooperation in advance. We are all in this together and our goal is to get students, staff, and parents back to school and work as quickly as possible while ensuring the safety of all.

Sincerely,



Dr. Jennifer Russell, BA, BSc, MD, CCFP
Chief Medical Officer of Health