



Dear GCS Community,

May 21, 2020

I am reminded often of a scripture I shared with you all in early March when the CDC began to heighten the concern in regards to Covid 19. The scripture was this:

**Psalm 91:1-2 “He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."**

My response to that scripture today is WOW! And WOW! I have read this verse almost daily but every time I read it there is much comfort and encouragement in it as I am reminded of God's protection and strength. Pause and ponder those two words "refuge" and "fortress", they really are life giving words!

I want to take a moment to give you an update on happenings here at Gaarde from the administrative perspective. First, I have to thank so many of you who have rocked our world by being overtly supportive and encouraging to all of our staff. Thank You! Second, I can't write anything about Gaarde without a huge shout-out to our amazing staff. I have told people that our staff are people of faith who just happen to be educators, which is why I believe we have traversed this challenge so well. Their trust in God to provide all that they need to do what has been asked of them, has bolstered my faith walk.

Third, I want to assure you that we are working many hours to prepare for next school year. As we walk into a familiar place we walk with the understanding that we have to consider that there may be many *unfamiliar* nuances that could arise on this path. Pastor Tom, myself and Cindy Loayza, will continue to pursue God's wisdom as we flesh out any new guidelines, specific changes and modifications that need to occur for the 2020-2021 school year. We will attempt to maintain regular communications in regards to 'what that looks like'. While we don't want to inundate anyone with emails or mailings we feel it is important to give you concrete information as it becomes available.

As always we are here to serve you and your family. Please do not hesitate to call or email with questions! Tiffany Messner, our front office manager, will be able to answer most of them, but when she cannot she will make sure that I respond as soon as possible.

I pray for His peace to rest and abide upon your homes and for His unfailing love to overwhelm your hearts!

In His Grip,  
Pastor Kelly GrosJacques, Interim Administrator