



July 21, 2019

Dear GCASD Families,

At last night's Board of Directors meeting, the GCASD Reopening Health & Safety Plan was approved. The full document is available on the District website along with a summary document. It is important to understand that the Health & Safety Plan provides the terms and conditions that are intended to direct the operations of all school related activities for the opening of the 2020-2021 school year. This plan will now be used to establish the methods for delivering our instructional programs and preparing the various schedule and curricular options for your review and selection. The final document that is needed for our reopening is the GCASD Reopening Instructional Plan.

Throughout the summer months, several stakeholder groups have been working on building learning plans that are durable and flexible for the upcoming school year. We have not finalized each piece of the Instructional Plan just yet, but wanted to provide you with a brief communication outlining the framework for what you can anticipate from GCASD moving forward. You can also expect that a survey will be sent during the week of August 3 asking you to finalize your preferred educational model for the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Greater detail for each of the following will be provided when that survey is distributed. The following three descriptions provide you with a brief framework overview of what we are preparing to offer each and every student in grades K-12.

TRADITIONAL SCHOOL SCHEDULE: Students report to school on all scheduled school days and receive instruction within the brick and mortar building. During the first week of school, all students will receive detailed training on the use of their district-provided Chromebook devices, Google Platform, and Health & Safety protocols. In the event that we experience a school closure, or that students experience quarantine, this first-week orientation training will ensure that our students are ready to maintain a continuity of education in multiple settings. The orientation will also ensure that all students are ready to support the health and safety protocols necessary to comply with the District Health & Safety Plan. Within the traditional school schedule, a blend of in-person and online opportunities will be provided within the school building. Class size, room assignments, access to resources, and student grouping are examples of planning modifications that will be made to follow the District Health & Safety Plan.

HYBRID SCHOOL SCHEDULE: Students/Parents who select this option will have a blend of brick and mortar courses and online learning courses. The online courses will be provided via Compass Learning for the Elementary and Edgenuity for the middle and high school students, coupled with weekly synchronous engagement with their GCASD teachers. If you select the hybrid option, you will be contacted by school personnel to create your schedule. Online coursework can be done while in the school building, or parents may have the option to reduce the time in the school building by providing their own transportation.

FULL-TIME ONLINE/CYBER LEARNING: Students will not report to the brick and mortar school building daily. Courses will be provided using Compass Learning for the elementary level students and Edgenuity for middle and high school students. GCASD teachers will be the assigned teachers that oversee student work and assessment. Students will have access to weekly synchronous engagement with their teacher, if you elect to participate. Students will work asynchronously - meaning at their own pace and on their own daily schedule. Work completion and time requirements will be communicated to the student at the beginning of each 9-week session. All students participating in the Grove City Cyber program will remain Grove City Area School District students and will maintain access to extra-curricular opportunities and a smooth transition back to brick and mortar if a family so chooses. If you select the online/cyber option, GCASD will provide you with the necessary resources as well as log-in and program information sometime in mid to late August.

We are confident that we will be prepared for whatever is asked of us for the upcoming school year. We will face challenges, but those challenges will allow us to grow as an organization and community. We appreciate your patience during these challenging and uncertain times. Please know that we are and will continue to be here for our families. Remember, this communication is to provide a framework for the programs that are being finalized for the opening of the school year. You will be receiving a more detailed description, with examples, for each option along with a selection survey in early August. If at any time you have questions, please contact your building principal.

Sincerely,

*Jeffrey A. Finch*

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Superintendent

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