

## **GPSD Grades 7-12 Q&A 8/23/2021**

Refer to [THE ROAD BACK](#) for the most up to date information regarding mandates for a safe return to school.

### **Breakfast & Lunch Protocols**

**You mentioned bagged lunches, can students bring their own lunch and can they use a lunch bag or does it need to be a disposable lunch bag?**

- *Students may bring their own lunch and can use either a reusable or disposable lunch bag*

**Will there be plastic partitions in the lunchroom to separate the students while eating?**

- *GIS and GHS will not be utilizing plastic partitions in the lunchroom and will make every effort to ensure students are distanced from each other as much as possible while in the lunchroom.*

**Do students have to eat in the cafeteria and will the tables be staggered for social distancing?**

- *Students must eat in the cafeteria. Tables will not be staggered due to lack of space, however, every effort will be made to ensure students are distanced from each other as much as possible.*

**Can students leave the high school for lunch and if so, what grade?**

- *Yes, seniors are able to sign out and leave for their lunch period.*

**Are the schools peanut free?**

- *The schools are not peanut free, however, there are peanut free areas in the lunchrooms for students with such allergies.*

### **Bus & Dismissal Protocols**

**What changes/safety precautions will be made regarding transportation?**

- *According to the CDC mandates, all students and staff are required to wear masks on the bus at all times. Bus staff will sanitize as much as possible between runs.*

**When will bus information be released and where do we find it?**

- *Bus information will be released next week in your child's PowerSchool account. For further information please contact [lrodriguez@gpsd.us](mailto:lrodriguez@gpsd.us)*

**GCIT students will need their transportation information before 8/31, when will it be available?**

- *Transportation information was mailed on 8/24/2021 for all GCIT students. For further information please contact [lrodriguez@gpsd.us](mailto:lrodriguez@gpsd.us)*

**Is specialized transportation available to students with IEP's at GIS and GHS?**

- *Specialized transportation is available for students with IEP's, however this must be written into the IEP. Please contact [ctorbik@gpsd.us](mailto:ctorbik@gpsd.us) for more information.*

## Sports & Club Protocols

**Where can we get physical forms?**

- *All forms can be found online on the GHS website.*

**Will clubs be meeting at the high school? Are they after school and will transportation be provided?**

- *Clubs will meet after school and transportation will be provided to those students who require it.*

**How can we receive information regarding physical status so waiting athletes can practice?**

- *Please reach out to [clynch@gpsd.us](mailto:clynch@gpsd.us) as this is specific to each student.*

**Will info on available clubs and sports tryouts/registrations be sent home at the beginning of the school year?**

- *This information is not sent home with students. All information will be on the district website and will be advertised to students when it is available.*

**When will students receive last year's sports awards and letters?**

- *Please contact [clynch@gpsd.us](mailto:clynch@gpsd.us) for information regarding sports awards/letters.*

## School & District Level Protocols

### **Should parents submit proof of vaccination if their child is vaccinated?**

- *If your child has been vaccinated, we are requesting that you communicate this information with your child's school nurse.*

### **Will we still have to complete the COVID screener in PowerSchool each morning?**

- *The district will be utilizing a pledge for parents and students to complete similar to what was utilized last year. The Pledge will be made available to all parents/guardians and must be completed for EVERY CHILD you have in the district. This will replace the screener through PowerSchool.*

### **Are students allowed to carry backpacks and use lockers at GIS? GHS?**

- *Lockers will be utilized by all students. Students are not permitted to carry backpacks to their classrooms but can store them in their lockers.*

### **Will textbooks and materials be online or will students be required to carry books and notebooks with no backpack?**

- *GHS and GIS utilize digital textbooks. Majority of student assignments are completed through Schoology so there will be minimal supplies that students are required to carry throughout the day.*

### **What time do GHS and GIS students start school?**

- *Students at GHS must be in their homeroom no later than 7:50 am*
- *Students at GIS must be in their homeroom no later than 7:25 am*

### **When and how do we get class schedules for GIS and GHS?**

- *Schedules should be available in PowerSchool by the end of the week. For further information you can also reach out to the GIS or GHS guidance office.*

### **Will supply lists be provided and where can they be found?**

- *Students will be notified during the first week of school, typically the first day of class, of what materials will be required for each course.*

**Will students starting a college morning class be required to check into a home room class before going to their college class?**

- *This will be specific to each child's schedule. Most students will not attend homeroom prior to attending classes at Rowan.*

**Will split lunches be by grade at the high school?**

- *There will be 2 lunch periods in which students will be placed. Placement into specific lunch periods will depend on each student's specific schedule.*

**You mentioned peer tutors and staff mentors, when will they become available once the school year starts? How soon can a student receive help and how do we get this assistance for our students?**

- *Peer tutors and staff mentors are provided through the guidance department. Please reach out to the GIS or GHS guidance office for more information.*

**Will freshman and 7th graders who attended virtual learning last year have an orientation for the school and can parents attend?**

- *All incoming freshman will have an orientation on August 26th from 12:00 pm until 2:00 pm*
- *Both 7th and 8th graders at GIS will have a tour of the building on the first day of school. This event is not open to parents/guardians at this time.*

**Will assignment weights revert back to what they were prior to last year?**

- *Yes, grading procedures will revert back to previous weights.*

**Are all students starting on the 8th or is there a staggered start to the year?**

- *All students will start school on September 8th. This is a full day of school for all students.*

**How can I access my PowerSchool account if I am locked out?**

- *Please reach out to [ewilliams@gpsd.us](mailto:ewilliams@gpsd.us) for PowerSchool related issues.*

**Where do we enter the buildings if we have to drop off a late student or items forgotten at home?**

- *All late students and item drop-offs can be made at the main office for both GIS and GHS. Please enter through the main entrance at the front of either building.*

**Do you foresee schools going remote on occasion, during inclement weather, for instance?**

- *This will be determined by the Superintendent as situations arise.*

**Are there requirements for specific gym clothes?**

- *Students will receive information during their first day of gym class regarding the requirements for gym uniforms.*

**Will there no longer be a Bulldog Block at the high school since all students are required to now have lunch in the cafeteria?**

- *There will no longer be a Bulldog Block, Glassboro High school will have split lunches.*

**Will the attendance guidelines for “mandatory clubs” such as Biomed be adjusted if these clubs meet after school?**

- *Yes, information regarding clubs will be made available to students once they begin to meet.*

**Will Honor Society be offered to children who are eligible on the High School level?**

- *Yes, students will be required to meet the qualifications to become a part of the Honor Society.*

**Do I have to re-register my students if they attended school last year?**

- *We ask that you re-enroll/update your information in PowerSchool each year to ensure we have current information - especially emergency contact information such as phone numbers and email addresses. The link will be active on the district website on the first day of school.*

**How will the locker rooms be monitored for social distancing and if the students will be keeping their masks on?**

- *The physical education teachers will monitor the locker rooms as they have in past years to ensure student safety.*

**Can seniors still participate in Co-op?**

- *Yes, this will still be available to seniors.*

**My child has a lot of anxiety coming back after a year and a half. Will there be anything offered at the school to help this?**

- *Guidance counselors are available in all buildings to all students. Please be sure to reach out to our guidance office if you have specific concerns.*

## Technology, Simulcasting/Virtual Learning

**Will all students receive a computer and when will they receive them? What if they need them early for classes at GCIT or Rowan?**

- *All students will be issued a district laptop on the first day of school. Students will need to have a completed User Agreement in order to bring the laptop home. Any student requiring a laptop prior to September 8th should contact the technology department ([technology@gpsd.us](mailto:technology@gpsd.us)) to make individual arrangements.*

**What would cause the district to decide that a child isn't eligible for remote learning if they have to quarantine?**

- *Per state mandate, there is no simulcasting/virtual learning option for students who stay home voluntarily. Virtual assignments will continue to be posted on the Learning Management System and will be available for students who must take a sick day. If the school issues a quarantine due to close contact, simulcasting may be provided to the extent possible.*

**Will students be completing their homework on their laptops from home?**

- *Students who have submitted a User Agreement will be allowed to bring home a district-issued laptop to complete homework. Students with access to a personal computer at home do not need to bring home their district-issued laptop; this assumes assignments are able to be completed at home without the district laptop.*

## Quarantine/Sick Protocols & Absences

***Please note that any information related to specifics of COVID-19 exposure, quarantine, vaccination status, travel etc., can change at any time as recommended or directed by the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH).***

**What would cause the nurse to decide that a child isn't eligible for remote learning if they have to quarantine?**

- *Any student who is required to quarantine, as per the school nurse, due to COVID-19 symptoms or COVID-19 exposure will be eligible for remote learning during designated quarantine period.*

**If sick but not COVID or quarantined will they be able to do synchronized learning or is like the old, just making up the work the next day?**

- *Per state mandate, there is no simulcasting/virtual learning option for students who stay home voluntarily. Virtual assignments will continue to be posted on the Learning Management System and will be available for students who must take a sick day. If the school issues a quarantine due to close contact, simulcasting may be provided to the extent possible.*
- *Students who are not quarantined as per the school nurse are not able to do synchronized learning at this time. Please contact teachers for make-up work options.*

**Is the nurse following cdc exposure guidelines for vaccinated students?**

- *School nurses are following directives from the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH). School nurses review NJDOH and CDC guidance on a regular basis and collaborate on the same.*

**Many of our students at this level are vaccinated. How will this impact both contact tracing and quarantining requirements?**

- *Fully vaccinated persons do not require quarantine, as long as they have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure. Vaccinated persons should continue to monitor for symptom development and should remain home if symptoms develop and contact the school nurse.*

**Please share the criteria that the nurse will follow to determine if a student can participate in remote learning?**

- *Any student who is required to quarantine, as per the school nurse, due to COVID-symptoms or COVID exposure will be eligible for remote learning during designated quarantine period.*

**If one of my children is positive with Covid, would my other child have to quarantine even though he/she is vaccinated?**

- *Household contacts of a person with COVID 19-compatible symptoms must remain home and quarantine until the symptomatic individual receives a negative test result.*
- *In absence of testing for the symptomatic person, quarantine for household contacts could be as long as 24 days.*
- ***Siblings who are fully vaccinated and have remained asymptomatic after a household COVID-19 exposure are not required to quarantine.***
- *If the symptomatic household member tests positive for Covid-19, all unvaccinated siblings will require quarantine.*
- *Your school nurse can assist you with this situation if it arises.*

**Please provide full disclosure on quarantine guidelines.**

- **COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms**
  - *Students with COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms who have not been tested must stay home until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset and at least 24 hours have passed after resolution of fever without fever reducing medications and improvement of symptoms .*
  - *Students who tested positive for COVID-19, but who are asymptomatic must stay home for 10 days from positive test result.*
- **Close contacts**
  - ***Low and moderate transmission level-*** *exposed close contact is excluded from school for 10 days ) or possibly 7 days with a negative test result collected at 5-7 days.*
  - ***High transmission level-*** *exposed close contact excluded from school for 14 days.*
- *Please note, 14 day quarantine may be applied at any time and all guidelines subject to change at any time.*
- ***In all cases of quarantine, please contact your child's school nurse to review status prior to your child returning to school.***



**Would I report COVID exposures outside of school to the nurse and would I still have to quarantine?**

- *Yes, please report any COVID-19 exposure outside of school to the school nurse and quarantine is required. School nurse can review quarantine specifics and date of return with you.*

**If a child that is vaccinated is covid positive how will that change the contact tracing and quarantine guidelines?**

- *Directives and practices would remain the same.*

**If a teacher tests positive for covid, will the whole class be quarantined?**

- *Students who are identified as close contacts would require quarantine.*

**Will the school provide COVID testing for students?**

- *No. School nurses can assist you to find testing locations. There are a multitude of places to receive COVID-19 testing in our area.*

## Masking Protocols

**Will all students be required to wear masks or are there exceptions?**

- *Appropriate and consistent use of masks may be challenging for some individuals, however mask use is required for all individuals in indoor school settings with the following exceptions:*
  - *When doing so would inhibit the individual's health, such as when the individual is exposed to extreme heat indoors;*
  - *When the individual has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance;*
  - *When a student's documented medical condition or disability, as reflected in an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Educational Plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, precludes use of a face covering.*
  - *When the individual is under two (2) years of age;*
  - *When the individual is engaged in activity that cannot physically be performed while wearing a mask, such as eating or drinking, or playing a musical instrument that would be obstructed by a face covering;*
  - *When the individual is engaged in high-intensity aerobic or anaerobic activity;*

- *When a student is participating in high-intensity physical activities during a physical education class in a well-ventilated location and able to maintain a physical distance of six feet from all other individuals; or*
- *When wearing a face covering creates an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task.*
- *According to Executive Order No. 251, individuals seeking a medical exemption from mask-wearing will be required to produce written documentation from a medical professional to support that exemption. Self attestations and parental attestations are not sufficient.*

### **Will students be allowed to take mask breaks?**

- *State mandates require students to wear masks at all times when indoors. They may briefly remove masks while eating or drinking. However, students may remove masks when outdoors if not in a crowded setting.*

### **What types of masks can be used?**

- *The most effective fabrics for cloth masks are tightly woven such as cotton and cotton blends, breathable, and in two or three fabric layers. Masks with exhalation valves or vents, those that use loosely woven fabrics, and ones that do not fit properly are not recommended.*
- *Masks should be washed after every day of use and/or before being used again, or if visibly soiled or damp/wet.*
- *Disposable face masks should be changed daily or when visibly soiled, damp or damaged.*
- *Clear masks that cover the nose and wrap securely around the face may be considered in certain circumstances including for the teaching of students with disabilities, young students learning to read, or English language learners.*