Return to School Plan
2020-21

GRACE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ON CAMPUS LEARNING

The GCS Board and Administration is preparing for on-campus school operations to resume August 13, 2020. Our school team will follow specific health precautions which will be in accordance with our local, state, and federal requirements. Specific decisions and plans regarding on campus modifications will continue to be finalized over the next few weeks as protocols are updated by local, state, and federal leadership.

Students will begin the 2020-21 academic year on campus with the expectation that specific, recommended health and safety procedures will be in place such as:

- Regularly sanitization/cleaning processes
- Minimizing student contact throughout buildings
- Institution of capacity limits to allow for social distancing in spaces
- Modification of programs and events in compliance with limits on crowd sizes and social distancing measures
- Streamlined campus access for visitors and parents
- Continued use of online and virtual platforms in conjunction with in-person services to keep students familiar with online protocol

DISTANCE LEARNING

In the event that federal, state, or local authorities close schools or initiate a stay-at-home-order, students will transition to distance learning. Students will continue their education with a blend of asynchronous (teacher-directed) and student-directed remote learning with regular

modifications to ensure that students are receiving a well-balanced and academically fulfilling experience.

Teachers will be participating in professional development throughout the fall to ensure educational best practices for blended/remote learning.

Circumstances Requiring Distance Learning:

- At-risk students with pre-existing health conditions who may not want to be on campus but wish to remain part of GCS
- Families who do not feel comfortable returning to our physical campus but wish to remain at GCS
- Confirmed case(s) of COVID-19 part of GCS
- Federal, state, or local stay-at-home order

Preparing for Interruptions

With caution in mind, GCS is preparing for times of interruption to on campus learning this year. Faculty and staff will be trained and ready to move to distance learning on minimal notice should this become necessary.

HEALTH MEASURES

- Signs posted at each building entrance with standard hygiene and wellness information

- Faculty/staff daily temperature check and health screen at sign-in

- Student temperature check and health screen at drop-off

- Students or staff failing any part of the health screening including having a temperature above 100.0 must return home immediately

- Students who exhibit Covid-19 symptoms (fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, or temperature during the school day

diarrhea) or temperature during the school day will be sent to a quarantine room until they are able to leave campus. They will be asked to stay home 14 days or until such time as they can present either written permission from a physician to return to school or negative Covid-19 test results.

• Masks recommended everywhere except while sitting in desks (i.e., arrival, dismissal, class change, bathroom breaks, lunch pickup)

CRISIS PLAN

In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 within our student body, faculty, or staff, the GCS Board and Administration has developed a Crisis Plan in accordance with current CDC guidelines.

• Recommendation for building closure for 14 days retroactive to the first appearance of symptoms in the student with a confirmed case.

• Students who attended classes within the closed building will move to distance learning until cleared to return to campus.

• After a 24-hour waiting period for building re-entry, cleaning staff will open doors and windows of building to increase circulation.

• Building will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected using an EPA-approved disinfectant.

• GCS will ensure continuity of education.

CONTINUITY OF EDUCATION

• Train staff to transition to distance learning with minimal notice

• Implement digital platforms in physical classrooms to increase student familiarity

• Utilize paperless homework turn-in via NEO LMS

• Provide additional Tech Support for faculty, parents, and students

• Maintain digital platform links on school website

CLEANING AND SANITATION

• Cleaning and sanitizing of high traffic areas every two hours

• Campus-wide cleaning and sanitizing at the end of every school day

• Cleaning and sanitizing desks between classes and any other shared classroom equipment, supplies, or toys

• Hand sanitizer made available at each building entrance and in each classroom

SOCIAL DISTANCING

• (6) feet of distance between students in academic classes.

• Course enrollment in the classroom shall not exceed occupancy for the classroom in which the course is taught. Also, club meetings shall not exceed occupancy for the classroom in which the meeting is held.

• Desks/seats in classrooms shall be six (6) feet apart in all directions.

• No visitors will be allowed on campus except front office.

• In accordance with CDC guidelines, school will encourage no-contact Physical Education and Team Sports classes.

• Students will not eat lunch in the cafeteria until further notice. Lunches can still be ordered through Renweb and will be available to students for pickup during their assigned lunch period. After food pickup, students will eat with their assigned teacher in a socially distanced area on campus.

• No gatherings larger than 100 people will be permitted.

• Assemblies must maintain social distancing guidelines of six (6) feet apart. GCS may utilize outdoor assemblies, staggered chapel times per grade level, or pre-recorded sermons to be viewed in classrooms.

SCHOOL DAY

• Perfect attendance initiatives for students and staff shall be removed for the 2020-2021 school year.

• To sub for teachers who will be absent, emphasize seeking classroom coverage within school first to minimize exposure to new outside sources.

• Recommend limiting building to building movement as much as possible.

• Should GCS transition to distance learning, students will follow the regular school schedule for online meetings.

• Students needing extended absences may utilize distance learning.

• Provide teachers with additional planning time for online classroom preparation, meetings, and/or professional development. Teachers may record lessons and upload to NEO LMS for distance learning.

• Provide Tech Support to teachers, parents, and students.

DIGITAL PLATFORMS

• RenWeb will continue to be our school's primary information system. Parents and students can access grades, announcements, class assignments, order lunches, etc.

• K3-12th grade students will use NEO LMS as our online platform to view and complete lessons and assignments, view instructional videos, and upload/return work.