

# ***RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN 2021-22***



**GRACE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**



## ON CAMPUS LEARNING

The GCS Board and Administration is preparing for on-campus school operations to resume August 13, 2021. Our school team has researched and implemented 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 2021-22 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
- Availability of an online platform for use during quarantine



## 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:

- Confirmed case(s) of COVID-19 at GCS necessitating quarantine
- 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

- GCS quarantine directions stem from CDC and MSDH guidance.
- Masks are recommended but not required. Please send a mask with your student every day.
- Signs will be posted at each building entrance with standard hygiene and wellness information.
- It is highly recommended that families screen their child(ren) for health-related symptoms each morning. Faculty and students with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or greater cannot return to school until fever/symptom-free for 24 hours with medication.
- Routine screenings will not take place; however, should a student develop fever or any of the following symptoms (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) while at school, he or she will be placed in quarantine, a parent or guardian will be contacted for pickup, and he or she may not return to school until fever/symptom-free for 24 hours with medication.



## CRISIS PLAN

With regard to COVID-19 within our student body, faculty, or staff, GCS will take the following steps:

- Any student or staff member who has been tested for COVID-19 must be quarantined until released by a physician.
- Any student or staff member who tests positive for COVID-19 must quarantine at home for 10 days and provide the school with a medical release from a physician. Parents should notify the school if their child tests positive for COVID-19 or has been in contact with COVID-19.
- Any student or staff member who becomes aware that they have been in close contact with a person who has COVID-19 may be asked to quarantine for 10 days.
- When the school becomes aware that a student or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19, the parents of the individuals in that student's class/activity will be notified. All should then monitor for signs and symptoms of the virus. Any student or staff member who was within 6 ft of the affected individual for at least 15 minutes will be notified and asked to quarantine at home and monitor signs and symptoms.

In the event of an outbreak 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 start of the outbreak.

- 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 platform 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 and any other shared classroom equipment, supplies, or toys several times per day
- 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.
- At this time, our plan is for the cafeteria to be open this year. Like always, lunches can still be ordered through Renweb and will be available to students for pickup during their assigned lunch period. After food pickup, students may eat with their assigned teacher in the cafeteria, in their classroom, or 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 2021-2022 school year.
- To sub for teachers who will be absent, we will emphasize seeking classroom coverage within school first to minimize exposure to new outside sources.
- GCS will 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 should contact the teacher and work out a plan for acquisition of makeup work and completion of assignments.
- GCS will 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.
- RenWeb will also be used as the preferred method of documenting and sharing lesson plans. If we have a normally scheduled day of school, look for lesson plans on RenWeb.
- K3-12th grade students will continue to use NEO LMS as our online platform in instances of quarantine. During such times when individuals or entire groups must be quarantined, NEO may be used to view and complete lessons and assignments, view instructional videos, and upload/return work.