



July 20, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Grand Canyon Unified School District will reopen on September 8, 2020. The Governing Board met on July 15, 2020 and developed the following guidelines for re-opening our schools. On July 1, 2020 Governor Ducey released an executive order stating that schools will not be allowed to have students physically on campus until August 17th or later. Teachers, Administrators and staff have given a lot of input and thought put into this plan. We have taken recommendations from the appropriate governing bodies and health departments. Everyone involved has taken the current situation with the pandemic very seriously.

While we understand that there is no “perfect plan,” we have tried to develop a plan that emphasizes safety for all students and staff, while providing a quality learning environment for all of our students. We also realize that this is the current plan, and as the pandemic situation changes, the plan very well could change. We will continue to reach out to our community and staff when making changes and make every effort for the best possible school year considering the current circumstances.

Sending Students to school:

• First and foremost, if your child is sick, please keep them home. If your child exhibits any of the following symptoms they must not come to school:

- fever of 100.4 degrees or higher, or chills;
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing;
- muscle aches;
- sore throat;
- headache;
- fatigue;
- congestion or runny nose;
- cough;
- vomiting;
- diarrhea;
- new loss of taste or smell

We want all parents and students to know that students who miss school this year will have additional support in catching up on missed instruction, making up work and having access to teachers.

- Student School Drop Off and Walk Up Procedure

- Drop off your student right before the start of school at 7:50 am. Students will be required to go directly to their first class. Student will not be going to the MPR for breakfast, but will be served in their first period classrooms.
- A school staff member will take temperatures as students enter the building. Students will be taught proper physical distancing while entering school buildings. Any student with a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be sent to a quarantine area to wait for parent pickup.

- Protocols for Students boarding the bus in the morning:

- Students will be screened with a no-touch thermometer.

Parents will be contacted if a student has a fever of 100.4 or higher. Current plan is to have a roving school van to safely supervise/transport any students who has a fever until the parent can be contacted.

- Students will be required to wear a face covering while riding the bus. We will have disposable face coverings available for each student, but we encourage the use of student personal face coverings.
- Assigned seating with families sitting together will be used during bus transportation to and from school. Students will load from back to front and disembark from front to back in order to limit exposure to as few other students as possible.

- Regular practices during the school day

- Face coverings will be required when physical distancing can not be maintained.
- GCUSD will be providing a Chromebook to each student in grades 3-12 to use for the year. They are to have that device at school each day. (IPADs and similar devices are being secured for PK -2 grade students). No other devices will be available for use.
- Lockers will not be issued during the 20-21 school year.
- Recess will be held, but classes will be staggered as to limit contact between children.
- Additional sanitization will be performed throughout the day. High contact areas like doorknobs, drinking areas, bathrooms, will be cleaned regularly throughout the day.
- We expect that students will be changing classrooms in a limited capacity to reduce contact between students and time in the hallways.
- Traffic directional signage will keep hallway traffic from excessive interaction.
- Students who show symptoms during the day will be sent to a quarantine area to wait for parent pickup.
- Breakfast and lunch is being planned to be served in the classrooms.
- GCHS will have **closed** campus for lunch.
- Hand washing and hygiene practices will be done and taught throughout the day.
- All Elementary classrooms will have handwashing stations within the classroom.
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the hallways and classrooms.

- Special Needs

- GCUSD will work with parents to develop a plan for success for any student that this plan does not accommodate. That could include extra precautions taken at school or having the opportunity to work from home in extreme scenarios. Please contact Principal Matt Yost if you

feel this pertains to your student. We will work together to develop and appropriate course of action.

- Athletics

- GCHS and GCMS will follow the Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) guidelines in participation in athletics. We expect these guidelines will change throughout the 20-21 year. AIA has stated that Fall Practice will not begin until at least August. Current plan for when teams begin practicing will be in small groups with temperature checks before practice. Athletes will not be allowed to change or shower at school. We are unsure if the AIA will hold fall sports at this time. Our intentions are for HS and MS Fall Athletics to proceed, if there is a season. We are planning to follow AIA guidelines.

The Administration understands that this letter does not go over every detail of the GCUSD re-opening plan, but it should serve a general idea of what to expect this upcoming school year.

I want to personally thank everyone for their continued support as we all work together to provide the best instruction for our students in the safest way possible. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Matthew Yost, Principal