

Greenwich Public Schools – In-Person Learning Summary

As required by the Reopening Guidance and in consultation with relevant stakeholders, the Greenwich Public Schools (“GPS”) has prepared a plan addressing the requirements outlined therein which GPS must submit to the CSDE on or before July 24, 2020 (the “Reopening Plan”). The “Reopening Plan” as submitted to the State is [available on our GPS website](#). Please note that the Reopening Plan may change and evolve over time, particularly if there are any changes in public health data affecting our community. Some highlights of the Reopening Plan in its current form are as follows:

Location of Students and Staff

- The Reopening Plan accounts for three phases of COVID-19 transmission risk:
- **Low Transmission Risk***: Return to school with social distancing as feasible as possible and other enhanced protocols for cleaning, personal protective equipment, cohort grouping, and thoughtful arrival and dismissal to mitigate high contact zones.
- **Moderate Transmission Risk**: Return to school with a hybrid schedule aimed to reduce the number of students in contact on any particular day by approximately 50%.
- **Critical Transmission Risk**: Full remote learning with students and teachers at home. A minimum of 50% synchronous teaching and 50% asynchronous teaching. This will include daily meetings at the beginning of classes (or content in elementary schools), direct instruction (e.g. mini lesson, introduction of new learning, review from prior day's lessons/learning) small group work in both synchronous and asynchronous times, independent work, and a final face to face block of time before the class is completed.

***Current phase as of the date of this memorandum.**

- **As required by the Reopening Guidance, parents and students may choose for students to temporarily engage in learning from home. The Remote Learning option would include:**
 - A minimum of 50% synchronous teaching and 50% asynchronous teaching.
 - The same curriculum as in-school learning
 - Elementary will include daily meetings at the beginning of the day (e.g. morning meetings) and include direct instruction (e.g. mini lesson, introduction of new learning, review from prior day's lessons/learning) small group work in both synchronous and asynchronous times, independent work, and a final face-to-face meeting before the day ends.
 - Secondary will include face-to-face meetings at the beginning of each class and include direct instruction (e.g. mini lesson, introduction of new learning,

review from prior day's lessons/learning) small group work in both synchronous and asynchronous times, independent work, and a final face-to-face meeting before the class ends.

- Attendance will be taken when students log into class.
- The classes in remote learning will follow the same schedule as if they were in school learning.
- Breakfast and lunch will be available for daily pick up at the school site of choice.

School Schedules

- **Elementary School: (Low Transmission Risk Phase)**
 - Full re-entry maximizing social distancing and cohorting.
 - Staggered arrivals.
 - Support from families to mitigate social distancing challenges associated with bus travel.
 - Reduce staff grouping sizes through the Advanced Learning Program (ALP).
 - Keep K-1 class sizes under 20 to maximize social distancing.
- **Middle School: (Low Transmission Risk Phase)**
 - Full re-entry.
 - Cohort sizes from 50-100 based on the team model.
 - Modified schedule to create cohort movement with a group of like teachers.
 - New electives rotation to team electives with core teachers so that minimal movement across cohorts is needed. Electives will rotate every 6-9 weeks with two on each rotation.
- **High School: (Moderate Transmission Risk Phase)** **The challenge comes down to space, and the need to reduce the amount of students present. Currently the CSDE and Governor are calling for a full return of all students and staff for all grade levels in Connecticut. GPS is seeking a hybrid approach which would include:**
 - Hybrid schedule of no more than approximately 50% of the students on campus at one time.
 - Face-to-face instruction on remote learning days.
 - Students are onsite for instruction 2-3 days per week.
 - Social distancing will be maintained in and around the building.
 - Class sizes will be kept small given that only 50% of the students are onsite at one time.

CRITICAL Transmission Risk

- Would require full remote learning PK-12+

Health and Safety Protocols

- GPS has arranged for certain health and safety protections related to facilities, including but not limited to:
 - Multiple doors and staggered entrance per the individual needs of each building to maintain social distancing.
 - Floor guidance mapping for directionality at entrances and exits and in restrooms.
 - Main offices, nurses' offices, GHS house offices, and essential related face-to-face service provider spaces are equipped with a plexiglass divider.
 - Hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes are available at entry/exit points and in all classrooms.
 - Each building has sanitizing throughout the day on door handles and other high-touch surfaces and is disinfected each evening.
 - Only essential volunteers and visitors are permitted in buildings.
 - Classrooms:
 - Arranged to maximize social distancing of 3 to 6 feet.
 - Floor mapping at the front of the room for a 6-foot "teacher zone."
 - Plexiglass or clear blocker for tabletop surfaces as needed for small group instruction and/or services.
 - Recess:
 - Limit cohort use and stagger outside times.
 - Hand Wash/sanitize before and after outside exposure.
 - Use designated doors for points of entry and exit to the recess or playground area.
 - Masks must be worn at all times for all students and staff when they are inside the school building. Recess and playground areas may be mask free zones if social distancing and cohort groupings are reinforced.
 - Safe mask storage must be provided as students exit the building into the playground. Masks must be put back on before re-entering the building.
 - All face mask storage must not contain plastic per medical guidelines.
 - Lunch:
 - **Low** Transmission Risk
 - Students may eat in the cafeteria with their cohort if social distancing of 3-4 feet can be maintained. School site analysis conducted with the principal and members of the GPS administration in August.
 - Brown bag or box lunches are served to the students. No lines will be utilized for lunch service.
 - **Moderate** Transmission Risk
 - Students eat in their individual classrooms. Brown bag or box lunches delivered to the classrooms to mitigate contact.

- Lunches are delivered via a box or cart, and the delivery is placed outside the classroom door for the teacher to retrieve. There is no entry into the classroom by the person who is delivering. Gloves should be worn for all deliveries.
 - **Low and Moderate** Risk require allergy free zones in classrooms and/or socially distanced cafeterias.
 - **Critical** Risk requires full district lunch deliveries at designated locations.
- Staff and students are expected to do the following:
 - Stay home if they feel sick.
 - Monitor health/temperature daily using a COVID-19 Daily Self Checklist provided by GPS.
 - Wear a mask at all times unless on a prescribed “mask break.”
 - Maintain social distancing.
 - Wash hands often and utilize hand sanitizer when a hand washing station is not available.
 - Do not congregate with colleagues in groups (staff); if possible, stay within a small cohort of people while at school (students).
 - Stay home and quarantine for 14 days if a family member has COVID-19.
 - Be responsible before and after school (students).
 - Enter the building with social distancing (students).
 - Move down the hallways following all directions (students).
- GPS will provide online video tutorials for staff and families on such topics as social distancing; hand washing and sanitizing; use of face coverings; respiratory and cough etiquette; and enhanced cleaning/disinfection practices.
- GPS will designate a Health and Safety Compliance Liaison who will be responsible for engaging with students, parents, faculty, staff, and administrators to answer questions or concerns about health and safety requirements regarding COVID-19 concerns. The Health and Safety Compliance Liaison is Dr. Ann Carabillo.