



We should be **shining** lamps,
giving **light** to **all** around us.

Catherine McAuley—Retreat Instructions 1841

Plans for Learning

2020-2021 School Year

Introduction to the Gwynedd-Mercy Academy 2020-2020 Plans for Learning

We have been able to view our planning for the upcoming year through a mission-based lens, seeking inspiration from the writings of Catherine McAuley, the founder of the Sisters of Mercy. "A good beginning is of great importance," said Catherine and we are challenged to construct a good beginning for 2020-2021, despite the circumstances. Another uplifting message from Catherine was, "A community in which this universal charity reigns, is capable of surmounting all difficulties." As a Mercy community, we must all look at the sacrifices we are making as those for the greater good, in service to others who may be vulnerable. By complying with guidelines and entering into this social contract within our school community, we are truly making Mercy real in our classrooms and in our homes.

These pages outline Gwynedd-Mercy Academy's plan* and strategies in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic in a collective, community approach. It is our hope that it will serve as a guide for the safe reopening of the school. The GMA administrative team has enacted policies to ensure safe learning and working environments for students and staff, while also preparing for the possibility that virtual learning could be a reality for certain periods during the school year. Our administrative team's focus has been on making the Gwynedd-Mercy Academy student experience one that can continue to thrive even under these unprecedented conditions while placing the health and safety of all students, faculty, and staff as our top priority.

At this time, we plan to resume in-person learning on August 31 with a number of changes and policies in place to create the safest possible campus learning environment. A review of this plan may be found on page 8.

All stakeholders should be mindful that as long as there are cases of COVID-19 in the community, there are no strategies that can completely eliminate transmission risk within a school population. The goal is to keep transmission as low as possible to safely continue school activities and allow students who are able to attend to retain the social and emotional benefits of in-classroom learning.

GMA is committed to the capability of offering concurrent classroom learning for students in need of virtual instruction due to the health concerns or constraints of students and their families. During those periods when we are conducting in-classroom learning, the faculty's first priority will be maintaining a healthy and safe classroom environment for students in school. Virtual instruction will be via an interactive web camera in the classroom with students at home engaging in the same innovative and curriculum-driven projects and assignments as those in school. While concurrent classroom learning can not replace in-person learning, we are committed to offering a quality program for our homebound students. We do expect that our new learning management system, Schoology, will be an enhancement and further support to the digital learning academic framework. Zoom links for class periods will be hosted within each student's Schoology account.

GMA VirtualED, our virtual learning student experience, will be implemented if there were to be a mandated school closure. Students will have the benefit of our dedicated and experienced faculty continuing the GMA curriculum and pacing of their grade-level materials throughout the 7-day cycle, including special area subjects.

It would be misleading to say that as hard as we have worked to create these plans, that we have all the answers. In this unprecedented and unforeseen situation, we have strived to design a system to maintain our excellent and innovative educational process, while meeting the needs of our families and prioritizing health and safety for our students, faculty and staff.

In Christ's Mercy,



Anne W. Knapke, M.Ed.
Principal

*Gwynedd-Mercy Academy Elementary's reopening plan is compiled based on the best information available at its distribution. GMA reserves the right to adjust as this uncertain situation develops throughout the school year.

Pandemic Planning Team

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Principal

Mr. Fred Santoro
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Mrs. Maura LaGreca
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Mrs. Sue Stephan
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Mrs. Bridget Keeley
GMA Board Member

Dr. Bryn Carroll
GMA Alumna

Mrs. Lindsay Patten
Girls' Athletic Director and PE Teacher

Mr. John Schwartz
Boys' Athletic Director and PE and Health Teacher

GMA Operational Approach for 2020-2021

In-Person Classroom Instruction GMA Campus with Social Distancing	Concurrent Classroom Instruction	GMA VirtualEd Distance Learning
<p>As of the date of this publication, GMA plans to return to in-classroom learning on August 31, 2020. The GMA Plan for Reopening begins on page 8 of this document.</p>	<p>Alternative option available while In-Person Classroom Instruction is ongoing for students who are unable to attend school or whose parents select Concurrent Classroom on a trimester basis. This instruction will be facilitated by in-classroom web cameras.</p>	<p>Implemented for all students upon mandated school closure.</p>

Guiding Principles for Reopening

GMA has identified six principles to guide all planning for reopening.

1. Ensure safe learning and working environments for students, faculty, and staff.
2. Provide flexibility for families in student learning format, while planning for three scenarios of instruction:
 - a. In-person classroom instruction with social distancing on GMA Campus.
 - b. Full-time concurrent classroom online instruction.
 - c. Virtual education for all students if a mandated closure should occur.
3. Ensure all students receive instruction conforming with the Gwynedd-Mercy Academy standards of excellence and innovation and have the necessary supports for success, including:
 - a. Access to technology.
 - b. Additional learning supports that are provided as part of the GMA program including McAuley Learning Center, GATE and MCIU.
4. Equip faculty and staff with resources in terms of training, support and curriculum materials to prepare for successful reopening.
5. Provide proactive, clear communication to all families, faculty, and staff.
6. Monitoring the school, students, faculty and staff and, when necessary, potentially switching to GMA VirtualEd in the future to appropriately contain COVID-19 spread.

GMA 2020 Alternative Learning Plans

Concurrent Classroom Learning Policy

Concurrent classroom learning is available to students who:

- Have health constraints or concerns preventing in-person learning.
- Are participating in a 14-day quarantine period due to a possible COVID-19 exposure.
- Will be out of school for an at least 3-day period due to illness or contagion.
- Live with a vulnerable family member.
- Have traveled internationally or to a state with a quarantine requirement (this would be for essential travel only, i.e., the funeral of an immediate family member).
- No concurrent classroom learning will be available to students due to travel or due to **quarantine following non-essential travel**.

Concurrent classroom commitment:

- Students may not move in and out of concurrent classroom learning at will.
- Parents will commit on behalf of their child on a trimester basis.
- A student who began the trimester using in-person learning, but had to switch to concurrent classroom learning due to illness or quarantine will be permitted back in school based on the Montgomery County Office of Public Health COVID-19 School Exclusion Requirements.
- Concurrent classroom instruction will be limited to indoor spaces.

GMA VirtualEd Distance Learning

Implemented upon a mandated school closure

- The GMA Virtual Learning Experience will be robust and aligned with our curriculum.
- Schoology, our new learning management system software, will facilitate a robust virtual learning experience.
- Students will have at least one 1:1 check in with a homeroom or advisory teacher per cycle.
- Faculty will host “office hours” and will be available for individual questions and content follow-up.
- VirtualEd will include live and recorded instruction along with periods of independent work and live review.
- Each student will have a combination of daily synchronous and asynchronous instruction spanning the curriculum.
- Students in K-3 will have a consistent daily schedule of core subjects with special area subjects across the A-G cycle.
- Students in grades 4-8 will follow a slightly modified version of their in-school A-G cycle schedule.
- The slightly modified schedule will include study breaks and lunch periods.
- Attendance in GMA VirtualEd will be monitored.
- Students will continue to have access to student support services such as MCIU, McAuley Learning Support, Gifted and Talented Education and School Counseling services.
- Students will have access to their 1:1 school-issued devices if necessary, facilitated by a signed Device Loan Agreement to guarantee reimbursement in case of damage or loss of devices or curriculum materials.
- All devices on loan and/or curriculum materials must be returned to school immediately upon resumption of in-person learning.

FAQs

What resources and guidance did you use to develop the plan for reopening the school campus?

Our plan used resources and guidance from the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, American Academy of Pediatrics, CHOP PolicyLab, Rutgers Graduate School of Education, the World Health Organization, Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), and the Montgomery County Office of Public Health.

Are we still having Book Day?

We will still be having a welcome event on August 27, but it will be different from our traditional Book Day. We have a committee of faculty and administrators working on what that day will look like based on the conditions at the time. It will be an outdoors only event.

When is the first day of school?

The first day of school will be Monday, August 31. The Labor Day holidays will be September 4 and 7. Our plan for the return to school includes new routines to keep our school community safe and a focus on a social and emotionally healthy return to an in-school environment.

How will the start of school be different than in years prior?

We always have a number of student orientation activities, but this year, initially, many will be focused on implementing the state and county's health and safety regulations, as well as the strategies outlined in our Plan for Reopening found on page 8. For those students in our Concurrent Classroom, we will have several Zoom orientation activities, taking place outside of class times, to help them orient to their new style of learning. There will be many challenges as the year begins, and the adjustment may be difficult, however, the well-being of our students and faculty will remain at the forefront of all planning.

Will the GMA Campus look different?

- Extraneous classroom furniture, including small group seating, has been removed from classrooms to facilitate social distancing of desks.
- Signs regarding everyday preventative measures and social distancing reminders will be posted throughout.
- Faculty will be encouraged to utilize our large outdoor campus for learning when possible.
- Reorganizing some spaces will maximize classroom options for social distancing including the Fine Arts Room, Library, Computer Lab and Cafeteria.

If I am choosing Concurrent Classroom for my child, can I change my mind, opting in and out as it suits our family?

Families select Concurrent Classroom on a trimester basis and may opt in or out at the end of each trimester. In order to sustain a quality educational experience in the Concurrent Classroom and In-Person Learning, it is necessary to maintain consistency in the students participating. If during the school year, a student should require a quarantine, but is asymptomatic, and able to engage in school work, that student may join the Concurrent Classroom temporarily.

Will my child have access to our public school district's bus transportation service? How can I be sure it will be safe?

It is our current understanding that local public school districts will continue to provide bus transportation to private schools, but it may look different as it has in the past depending on the specific school district's plans. If you depend on bus service, we recommend that you contact the Transportation Office of your school district for information on their schedule and plans for social distancing.

What if GMA is opening its campus and my local public schools does not? How will transportation/busing work?

We cannot speculate on what bus service will look like in school districts that are not providing it to students in their public schools. Parents can inquire at Transportation Offices concerning that eventuality, but should be prepared to provide car transportation.

FAQs

Where will my child have lunch?

Students will be eating in their homerooms. Our food service vendor, Aramark, will provide daily, boxed lunch options which will be delivered to classrooms.

Will students be required to wear masks?

Everyone on campus will be required to wear face coverings according to a Pennsylvania state mandate.

"The Order requires individuals to wear a "face covering." "Face covering" means a covering of the nose and mouth that is secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is wrapped around the lower face. A "face covering" can be made of a variety of synthetic or natural fabrics, including cotton, silk, or linen, and, for the purposes of the order, can include a plastic face shield that covers the nose and mouth."

We do not plan to mandate a specific type of mask/face covering for students. Certain styles, fit and materials will be better suited to some students than others, and our primary goal is that each child wears a mask/face covering which is comfortable, safe and fits properly. All masks/face coverings should be school-appropriate, much as we would expect of t-shirts on a dress down day, with no extreme graphics, political or controversial logos or statements. If school-appropriate masks/face coverings should become an issue, then we will have to move to solid colors only. All students will be expected to be wearing a clean mask/face covering upon entering school, as well as have a spare in a school bag in case it is necessary. Reusable masks/face coverings must be cleaned on a daily basis. Students are expected to wear their masks/face coverings throughout the day with the exception of "mask/face covering breaks," when a 6-foot social distance can be maintained and when eating and drinking.

How has Gwynedd-Mercy Academy prepared the campus to be safe for students and faculty?

- Twice-daily cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilating learning spaces, surfaces, and any other areas used by students (i.e., restrooms, drinking fountains, hallway and other high-touch areas).
- The after-school cleaning regimen will now include disinfecting procedures and will be increased in frequency and detail, based on the best available scientific guidance. All classrooms, restrooms, common areas, gym, playground equipment, reception office area and administrative offices will be fogged with an child-safe, FDA, CDC and OSHA approved broad-spectrum disinfectant solution using an electrostatic sprayer at least once a day.
- Use of PPE required for maintenance staff (masks, gloves, face-shields).
- Increased social distancing and hygiene practices.
- All drinking fountains will be disabled, allowing for water bottles to be refilled only.
- Large school gatherings will be restricted.
- Movement among groups and teachers will be limited. When possible, faculty will travel to meet students instead of students changing classes.
- Students will now be provided individual learning tool kits for each student to decrease the sharing of supplies, classroom manipulatives or learning materials.
- Each student will have a 1:1 device to use throughout the school day.
- All classrooms will have a 6-foot social distance between desks. In any case where that is not possible, a Plexiglas partition will be utilized. POD units have been deposited in our parking lot for the temporary storage of excess furniture removed from classrooms to achieve optimal social distances.
- The nurse's office will be relocated to a larger space with an adjacent isolation room for any student who appears to be exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19 or other contagious illness.
- Student and employee and staff health will be monitored using Health eTools.
- Policies regarding a return to school after exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms or a positive COVID-19 test will follow the guidelines of the Montgomery County Health Department and Wissahickon School District Health Services.
- On-campus visitors and volunteers will be restricted.
- Hand-sanitizing stations will be strategically and visibly placed throughout campus.
- Clear campus foot-traffic guidelines to optimize the flow of students to prevent crowding and promote physical distancing for students, faculty and staff.
- There will be new protocols for restroom usage to facilitate limited student contact.

FAQs

How will the daily at-home health status reporting process work?

Parents will complete an at-home health status report using each individual's unique Health eTools web link each morning. Faculty and staff will do the same. Only authorized users have access to student health data on Health eTools for Schools. Summary health information can be viewed by administrators, but not individual student or faculty health records. InnerLink, Inc. and its hosting partner, Media-X Systems, Inc. are responsible for providing administrative, physical and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of the electronic health information, student data or other sensitive information. Health eTools is HIPAA and FERPA compliant.

What is the procedure if a student, faculty or staff member feels symptomatic during the school day?

Any member of the community who exhibits symptoms during the school day will leave school immediately (student will wait in the isolation room until pick up).

What is the procedure if a student, faculty or staff member tests positive for COVID-19?

- If a child or staff member has a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, the Health Office will contact the Montgomery County Department of Public Health for further instructions.
- [GMA will follow the guidance provided by the Montgomery County Health Department.](#)

When would a student or staff member diagnosed with COVID-19 be permitted to return to school?

Members of the school community may return to the GMA campus in accordance with the guidelines of the Montgomery County Health Department.



COVID-19 School Exclusion Requirements

Exclusion From and Return to School Requirements		
COVID-19 Symptoms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two of the following symptoms: chills, fatigue, myalgia, headache, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or new loss of taste or smell OR • One of the following symptoms: fever (100.4 or higher), cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing 	Individual should be tested for COVID-19. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If test result is negative, return to school 3 days after symptoms are no longer present. • If test result is positive or individual is unable/refuses to get tested, may return to school after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ 3 days with no fever and ➢ Improvement in symptoms and ➢ 10 days since symptoms first appeared 	
Positive COVID-19 PCR Test	WITH SYMPTOMS May return to school after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 days with no fever and • improvement in symptoms and • 10 days since symptoms first appeared 	WITHOUT SYMPTOMS May return to school after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 days after PCR test was collected *If symptoms develop during the 10 days, follow return to school guidance for positive PCR with symptoms
Close Contact to Positive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 6ft for 15 minutes or more • Household contact 	WITH SYMPTOMS Individual should be tested for COVID-19. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If test result is negative, return to school 14 days after last exposure to the person with COVID-19 and symptoms have resolved • If test result is positive, follow return to school guidance for positive PCR with symptoms 	WITHOUT SYMPTOMS Excluded 14 days after last date of exposure to the person with COVID-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household contacts are in quarantine until 14 days after household positive is released from isolation *If symptoms develop during the 14 days, follow return to school guidance for Close Contact with symptoms
**Travel to States with High COVID-19 Rates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical workers are encouraged to wear both a face shield and mask and social distance, if unable to quarantine 	WITH SYMPTOMS If symptoms develop during the recommended 14 day quarantine upon return to PA, follow return to school guidance for COVID-19 symptoms	WITHOUT SYMPTOMS Self-quarantine for 14 days from when they return to PA

2020-PAHAN-504-05-04-UPD Update: Interim Guidance for Discontinuing Non-Healthcare Isolation with person with COVID-19

[**PADOH COVID 19 Information for Travelers](#)

Designated Contact Information for Schools

Phone: 610-278-6211

Email: MCSchoolCOVID19@montcopa.org

GMA Plan for Reopening for 2020-2021

Facilities Cleaning, Sanitizing, Disinfecting and Ventilation	
Requirements	Strategies
<p>Cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilating learning spaces, surfaces, and any other areas used by students (i.e., restrooms, drinking fountains, hallways and other high-touch areas)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Required use of face coverings within the school building. The only exception will be during a “mask break,” when a 6-foot social distance can be maintained and when eating and drinking. • Use of PPE required for maintenance staff (masks, gloves, face-shields). • Increased social distancing and hygiene practices. • GMA will follow the CDC’s Guidance for Cleaning & Disinfecting Schools. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects within the school at least twice daily, including door handles, sink handles, and drinking fountains. ◇ Disable the drinking capabilities on the water stations, only allowing for water bottles to be refilled. ◇ Implement and Supervise the Daily and Weekly COVID-19 Cleaning Activities. • HVAC Units have been serviced and filters will continue to be replaced quarterly.

Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols	
Requirements	Strategies
<p>Classroom/learning space occupancy that allows for 6 feet of separation among students and staff throughout the day, to the maximum extent feasible</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedules will be as static as possible by maintaining student groups together as much as possible. • To the extent feasible, students should be socially distanced six feet apart pursuant to CDC and PDE guidelines. • If 6 feet distancing is not feasible, alternate location or protective partitions will be utilized. • Grades K-4 will stay in their rooms as much as possible. When appropriate, special area teachers will move to K-4 classrooms. • Additional spaces will be utilized to allow for social distancing, i.e. gym, cafeteria, fine arts room, or outside when possible. • Ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high touch materials to the extent possible, or limit to one group of students at a time and disinfect in between use.
<p>Other social distancing and safety practices</p> <p>Limiting the sharing of materials among students</p> <p>Staggering the use of communal spaces and hallways</p> <p>Limiting the number of individuals in classrooms and other learning spaces, and interactions between groups of students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grades 6-8 lockers will be strategically assigned and a limited staggered locker schedule will facilitate social distancing. • Eliminate sharing of textbooks by purchasing additional copies or using photocopies when needed. Digital resources made readily available for all subjects. • 1:1 school wide technology practices eliminate the sharing of devices. The technology lab will have a cleaning protocol in place after each class and students will not be able to enter the lab without a teacher. • The interactive whiteboard and pen will only be used by the teacher. • Avoid using other employees’ phones, desks, offices, or other work tools and equipment, when possible. • Limit gatherings, events and extracurricular activities to those that can maintain social distancing. • Nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities that involve other groups will be restricted.

GMA Plan for Reopening for 2020-2021

Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols	
Requirements	Strategies
<p>Hygiene practices for students and staff including the manner and frequency of hand-washing and other best practices</p> <p>Posting signs, in highly visible locations, that promote everyday protective measures, and how to stop the spread of germs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unique safety protocols for staff with complex needs or other vulnerable individuals will be determined as concerns are reported. • Disposable face masks and plastic face shields will be provided by GMA for faculty and staff. Cloth masks may also be used by faculty/staff members. • Institute protocol for removing and folding masks to prevent contact with outside surfaces as well as protocol for storage of a mask in an individual labeled brown bag (s) when the mask is not in use. • All staff will be trained on healthy hygiene practices so they can teach these to students. • Students should be encouraged not to touch walls and fixtures when in hallway • Ensure handwashing strategies include washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly dirty, use hand sanitizer. • CDC - handwashing resources that include health promotion materials, information on proper handwashing technique, and tips for families to help children develop good handwashing habits. • Ensure adequate supplies (e.g., soap, paper towels, hand sanitizer, tissue) to support healthy hygiene practices. • Post signs in highly visible locations of bathrooms, classrooms, and hallways on how to stop the spread of COVID-19, such as properly washing hands, promoting everyday protective measures, and properly wearing a face covering. • CDC Germs are Everywhere / CDC Wash Your Hands
<p>Special Area subjects may require changes in location and procedures to facilitate social distancing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper cleaning procedures will be in place for shared spaces/items with cleaning instructions and a checklist for teachers each time a new class/cohort is present. • When feasible, grades K-4 special area classes will be held in their homerooms. • Art class supplies will be separated for individual use. The teacher will be responsible for distributing all materials to students. • Music Activities and Classes: Select and provide safe opportunities for music instruction for students. Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Physical proximity of students. ◊ Use of appropriate facilities to accommodate social distancing. ◊ Amount of touching of shared equipment and disinfecting between uses. ◊ Engagement of players at higher risk. ◊ Size of group. • PE Activity considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ PE equipment will be sanitized after each use. Sharing of equipment will be minimal and students will be instructed to wash their hands before and after PE class. ◊ PE uniforms will be worn for the entire day to limit use of locker rooms. ◊ Plan for social distancing while not engaged in active play.
<p>Before- and after-school programs must follow equivalent social distance and hygiene policies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra-curricular activities and Quest Clubs extra-curricular activities and clubs may be limited or restricted depending upon the ability to select and provide safe opportunities for students with the following considerations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Physical proximity of participants. ◊ Amount of touching of shared equipment and disinfecting between uses. ◊ Ability to engage in social distancing; Engagement of students at higher risk. ◊ Size of group and space. • Morning and Afternoon CARES activities may be limited or restricted. • Only registered students may attend CARES. Drop-in services will not be offered.

GMA Plan for Reopening for 2020-2021

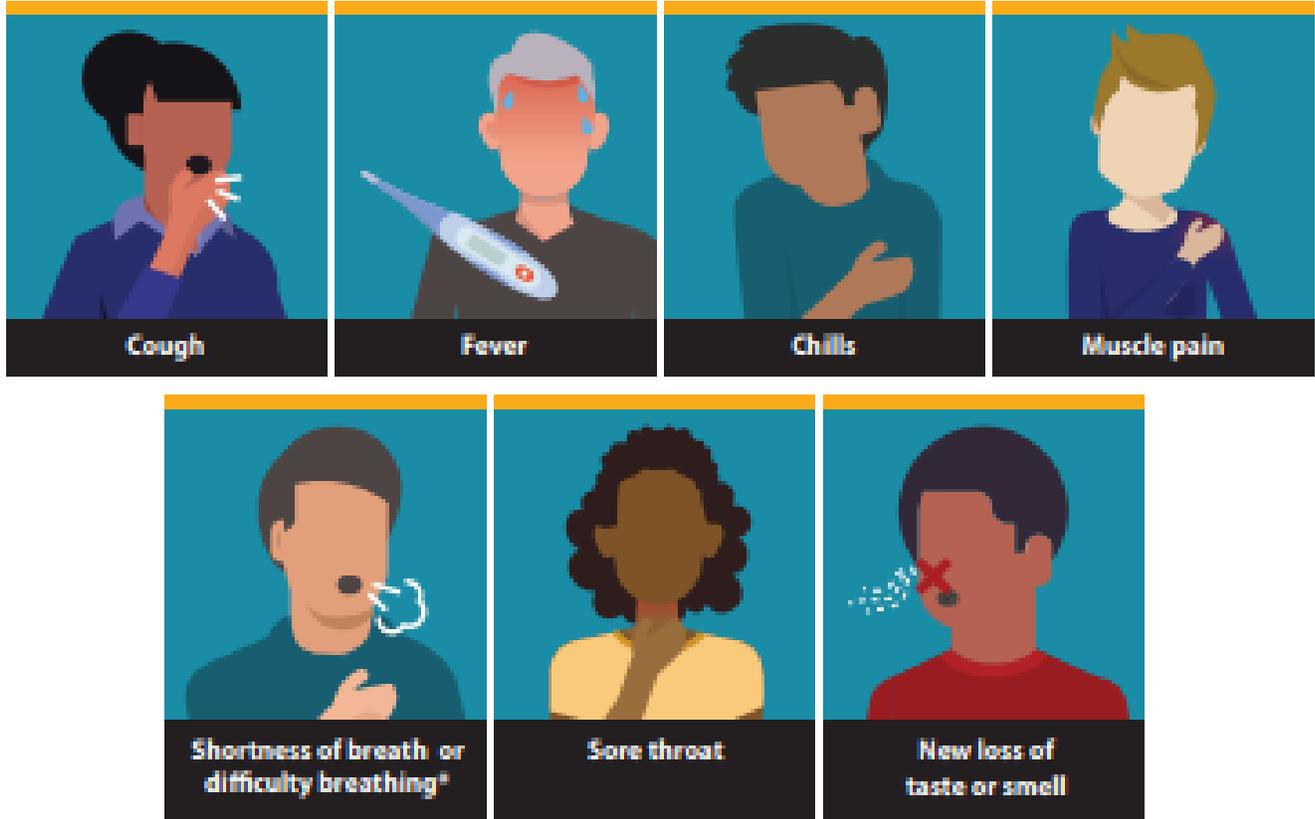
<p>Lunch: The use of the cafeteria will be limited and serving meals in alternate settings such as classrooms should be considered</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will eat lunch in their classrooms. • Students will be instructed to use hand sanitizer or wash hands prior to consuming food or beverages. • Birthday and/or celebratory edible treats are discouraged and may only be in the form of individual, commercially wrapped items. • Aramark will provide food service for 2020-2021 school year and has the capability to provide daily boxed lunch options. • Aramark will provide PPE to employees, including gloves, as well as additional sanitizing procedures. • Boxed lunches with disposable utensils will be delivered to each classroom. • Monitors in the classroom will distribute containers of food to students. • Trash cans outside each room will be emptied after each lunch by the facilities/custodial department. • Monitors will facilitate the cleaning of lunch surfaces.
<p>Recess: Efforts should be made to enforce social distancing during recess while encouraging individual and group play</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit to one group of students, following social distancing guidelines, using playground structures one at a time. • Limit recreation areas to open spaces. • Recess will be outdoors when possible - each homeroom and grade level will be assigned rotating designated locations. • Ensure adequate playground equipment (balls, jump ropes, etc.) to limit the sharing of items, or limit to one group of students at a time and disinfect between uses. • Limit team sports and group games following social distancing guidelines.
<p>Instrumental music lessons must be virtual or able to be provided in a socially-distanced or safe manner</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instrumental music lessons provided by Northeastern Music will be virtual and after school for the foreseeable future.
<p>Athletic activities must be implemented consistent with the Guidance for <u>Guidance for All Sports Permitted to Operate During the COVID-19</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic Academy League will make a decision concerning fall sports is expected in early August 2020. • Select and provide safe opportunities for exercise and sports events for students. Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◊ Physical proximity of players; ◊ Amount of touching of shared equipment; ◊ Ability to engage in social distancing while not engaged in active play; Engagement of players at higher risk; Size of team. • Athletic teams will have limited and staggered use of the locker rooms. • Train teachers, coaches, officials, and staff on all safety protocols.
<p>Transportation protocol policies may be in need of change to maintain social distance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local school districts will be instituting their own transportation protocols in terms of seating and social distancing. • Parents are recommended to contact transportation offices of individual school districts for information. • All students MUST WEAR masks/face coverings while on school district buses. • It is expected that GMA carline will be greatly extended. Drop-off and pick-up times may be adjusted as necessary.

GMA Plan for Reopening for 2020-2021

Monitoring Student and Staff Health	
Requirements	Strategies
<p>Monitoring students and staff for symptoms and history of exposure</p> <p>Isolating or quarantining students, staff, or visitors if they become sick or demonstrate a history of exposure</p> <p>Returning isolated or quarantined staff, students, or visitors to school</p> <p>Notifying staff, families, and the public of school closures and within-school- year changes in safety protocols</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symptom screening will be done by all parents/guardians at home each morning before the school day (including temp and symptom checklist) via a unique student web link within Health eTools. • Symptom screening will be done by all faculty and staff at home each morning before the school day (including temp and symptom checklist) via a unique web link within Health eTools. • Students and staff will consistently be made aware of the signs and symptoms of COVID-19. • Teachers will be reminded to check the health of their students during a common activity. • Students/faculty/staff who are or appear to be ill to be seen by the nurse and dismissed if symptomatic. • GMA will share resources with the school community to help families understand when to keep children home. CDC When to Keep Your Child Home • An isolation room or area to separate anyone who has COVID-19 symptoms will be available. • School nurses and other healthcare providers should use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions when caring for sick people. • What Healthcare Personnel Should Know About Caring for Patients with Confirmed or Possible COVID-19 Infection. • Any area used by a person testing positive for COVID-19 will be closed until after a thorough cleaning and disinfecting. • Report to Montgomery County Office of Public Health. • Inform parent/staff member of the instructions provided by Montgomery County Office of Public Health. • Contact tracing per Montgomery County Office of Public Health guidelines. • Faculty, staff, or student confirmed to have COVID-19 or exposure to COVID 19 will need to provide clearance to return to school from a health care provider or the Montgomery County Office of Public Health criteria when established. • Contagion notice will be sent to families, faculty, staff as per WSD guidelines unless Montgomery County Health Department provides alternate notification.

Symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Know the symptoms of COVID-19, which can include the following:



Symptoms can range from mild to severe illness, and appear 2-14 days after you are exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

***Seek medical care immediately if someone has emergency warning signs of COVID-19.**

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

This list is not all possible symptoms. Please call your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

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