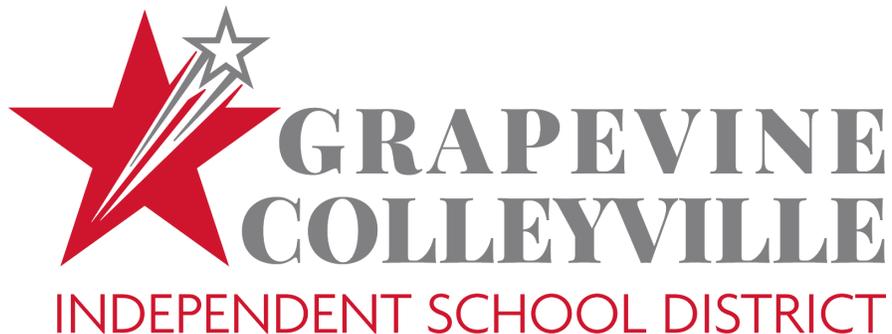


GCISD Spring 2021 Guide

Grapevine-Colleyville ISD continues to monitor the spread of COVID-19. The District receives regular updates and guidance from Texas Governor Greg Abbott, Texas Education Agency (TEA) Commissioner Mike Morath and other local, state and federal agencies regarding response, prevention and mitigation efforts. This guide will continue to change based on COVID-19 conditions across the state and our local community.

This plan is subject to change based on additional guidance from Governor Abbott, TEA and other local, state and governing agencies. This guide can be found on our website www.GCISD.net/Spring2021, and GCISD will continue providing details in the [GCISD Update](#) and on social media.

[Informe preliminar para el otoño 2020](#)



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Instructional Models



The District offers in-person and remote learning environments for students. Parents may choose which instructional option will work best for their student and family. Parents will choose one instructional method only. It is important to note that regardless of which instructional option is selected, grading is consistent with GCISD grading policy standards, not the pass/fail grading system used last Spring.

Choosing an Instructional Model

Families that select in-person instruction may change to remote instruction at any time during the nine-week grading period, as long as prior notice is given to the campus counselor. Families that select remote instruction may change from remote to in-person learning, that may only be done at the end of a grading period. [Instructions and dates for when that change can be made can be found here.](#)

As we deal with the unknowns of COVID-19, please make preparations for your family if we are required to close individual school buildings during the school year. If necessary, our teachers and staff will be prepared to take every student into remote learning at home, without having an intermittent break.

Guidance for Remote Instruction

The information that follows is based on the guidance from the Texas Education Agency, as well as recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Remote Instruction Overview

Remote Synchronous Instruction (Live)

Two-way, real-time/live, virtual instruction between teachers and students when students are not on campus. In this method, the required amount of instructional time is scheduled each day, and funding is generated when attendance is recorded daily at a locally selected time. Synchronous instruction is provided through a computer or other electronic device or over the phone. The instructional method must address the required curriculum, per TEC, §28.002. *State funding is not available for students in pre-kindergarten through second grade under this model.*

Remote Asynchronous Instruction (Independent)

Instruction that does not require having the instructor and student engaged at the same time. In this method, students learn from instruction that is not necessarily being delivered in-person or in real time. This type of instruction may include various forms of digital and online learning, such as prerecorded video lessons or game-based learning tasks that students complete on their own, and pre-assigned work and formative assessments made available to students on paper. The instructional method must address the required curriculum, per TEC, §28.002.

Additional Remote Instruction Information

As the District is required to take daily attendance with both instructional options, there will be mandatory daily check-ins for students who select remote learning. According to TEA, under an approved learning plan, students earn daily attendance through daily engagement measure(s) which include:

- ◆ Daily progress in the Learning Management System (LMS), as defined in the approved learning plan; or
- ◆ Daily progress via teacher-student interactions, as defined in the approved learning plan; or
- ◆ Completion/Turn-in of assignments from student to teacher (potentially via email, on-line, or mail).

GCISD has selected the remote asynchronous instruction model as it provides full state funding, as well as flexibility for our students and staff. **It is important to note the District will provide real-time opportunities and expectations for learning. These live virtual connections will vary based on grade-level and subject matter.**

For your reference, GCISD has created sample schedules for various grade levels to demonstrate how a typical remote learning day may look. Please note that times, exact class schedules, special services and other variables will vary by specific student needs and campus.

- ◆ [Elementary School](#)
- ◆ [Elementary School \(In-Person\)](#)

- ◆ [Middle School](#)
- ◆ [Grapevine Middle School](#)

- ◆ [High School](#)
- ◆ [Collegiate Academy Underclassmen](#)
- ◆ [Collegiate Academy Upperclassmen](#)

In May, GCISD conducted a survey to gather feedback from Learning@Home experiences across the District. Some parents provided feedback regarding having to navigate several learning management systems for their students' classes and assignments. Based on that feedback, and to provide a more streamlined experience for parents and students, GCISD has moved to [Seesaw](#) for elementary students and [Canvas](#) for secondary students.

The image displays three screenshots of educational management systems. The left screenshot shows a Canvas Dashboard with a sidebar menu (Account, Dashboard, Courses, Groups, Calendar, Inbox, Help) and a grid of course cards for Biology 101, Classic Literature, History 101, and Zoology 101. The middle screenshot shows a Seesaw Activities page for a student named ELIOT, featuring a Venn diagram activity titled 'Butterfly Life Cycle vs. Beetle Life Cycle' and a multiplication activity titled '2 Digit X 2 Digit Multiplication'. The right screenshot shows a Canvas Student interface for 'Math & Science 2019-20' with a 'Waiting for Response' notification and a 'Class Activities' section.

Support for Students with Disabilities (Special Education)

- ◆ ARD Committees will determine the unique needs of each student who receives special education instruction/ related services and will make service recommendations for students who participate in the remote learning instructional model.
- ◆ The nature of special education services will likely require a heavier concentration of live instruction and services to ensure that individual student needs are met.
- ◆ Progress will be monitored and ARD Committees will convene as needed to make appropriate recommendations to meet the individual needs of students.

Support for Students Under 504

- ◆ 504 Committees will determine the unique needs of each student who receives dyslexia/dysgraphia intervention or accommodations under 504 and will make recommendations for students who participate in the remote learning instructional model.
- ◆ The nature of dyslexia/dysgraphia services will likely require a heavier concentration of synchronous supports and services to ensure that individual student needs are met.
- ◆ Progress will be monitored and 504 Committees will convene as needed to make appropriate recommendations to meet the individual needs of students.

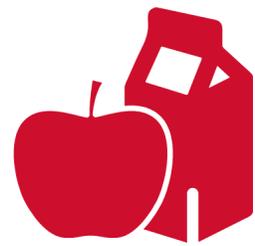
Attendance and Enrollment

- ◆ Grapevine-Colleyville ISD will be required to take daily attendance under both learning models. This means students will have to be present in-person and/or logged in and engaged each day to be counted present for credit purposes.
- ◆ Per Texas Education Code (TEC) 25.092, students must attend 90 percent of a course (with some exceptions) in order to be awarded credit for the course and/or to be promoted to the next grade.
- ◆ Given the public health situation, student attendance may be earned through the delivery of virtual instruction.

- ◆ School systems are required to provide parents a notice of their public education enrollment and attendance rights and responsibilities during the COVID-19 pandemic using a document published by TEA.
- ◆ In accordance with the **revised COVID-19 mandate issued by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) on December 10**, a Local Education Agency may determine that a student's attendance and/or academic performance in one or more classes puts them at significant risk of severe learning loss. The Local Education Agency can require the student to return to in-person learning through the steps outlined by TEA.

Nutrition Services Program

- ◆ As of September 22, 2020, GCISD is able to provide free meal bundles via curbside pickup locations to all children, 18-years-old and under, including those attending school remotely.
- ◆ Meal bundles will be available through curbside (drive-thru) pickup at Grapevine Middle School, Cross Timbers Middle School and Grapevine Elementary School every Wednesday from 4-5:30 p.m.
- ◆ The meal bundles will include seven breakfasts, seven lunches and a gallon of milk. There will be a mix of items to refrigerate, to freeze and that are shelf stable. Information sheets will be provided with storage and preparation instructions. Parents must read all information and follow storing, cooking and discarding recommendations.
- ◆ GCISD is able to offer these meal bundles free to all children thanks to a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) nationwide waiver that is in effect through June 2021. The meals are offered as part of the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) program which is sponsored by the USDA and the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA).



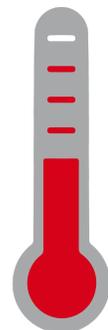
Guidance for In-Person Instruction

Students who receive in-person instruction will do so in a classroom setting taking into consideration health recommendations from local, state and governing agencies. The information that follows is based on the guidance from the Texas Education Agency, as well as recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The District continues to review this guidance and has incorporated it into the draft protocols for health screenings, social distancing and modification to campus life.

Preventative Practices

GCISD Students, Parents and Visitors

- ◆ It is important for all parents to have a working knowledge of the infectious period of someone with COVID-19. People are infectious before they have symptoms, meaning they could be spreading the disease without even knowing it. Individuals with COVID-19 develop signs and symptoms usually about five days after they're infected, but it can be as delayed up to 14 days. They themselves are able to infect others two days before they exhibit symptoms, and particularly on the day that they get sick. As long as they have signs and symptoms, they're still able to infect others for at least ten more days.
- ◆ Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is test-confirmed with COVID-19, and instead should opt to receive remote instruction until the **conditions for re-entry** are met. The symptoms include:
 - ◇ Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
 - ◇ Loss of taste or smell
 - ◇ Cough
 - ◇ Difficulty breathing
 - ◇ Shortness of breath
 - ◇ Fatigue
 - ◇ Headache
 - ◇ Chills
 - ◇ Sore throat
 - ◇ Congestion or runny nose
 - ◇ Shaking or exaggerated shivering
 - ◇ Significant muscle pain or ache

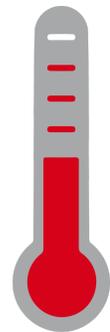


- ◇ Diarrhea
 - ◇ Nausea or vomiting
- ◆ If your child demonstrates any of the above signs or symptoms, they must stay home, and you need to report to the campus nurse the signs or symptoms your child is exhibiting. In the event that your child has a fever, they must be kept home from school until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication. Please do not give fever reducing medication and send your child to school.
- ◆ Students and staff may be subject to periodic temperature checks for verification, especially if they are feeling ill or suspected of having a fever during the school day.
- ◆ Schools must immediately separate any student who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school until the student can be picked up by a parent or guardian. An isolation area has been designated on each campus. For any student exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, the campus nurse will be called by the classroom teacher so that the nurse can prepare to receive the student, and perform an assessment. The student will be required to wear a mask to the isolation area. Parents will be contacted to come pick up their child and take them for testing, or to receive an alternative diagnosis from a physician. After a student exhibiting symptoms has left the classroom, the teacher and remaining students will vacate the room while cleaning and misting takes place. Once cleaning has been completed, the teachers and remaining students may return and continue the educational process.
- ◆ When a parent/guardian is called regarding an ill student at school, the parent/guardian must arrange for their student to be picked up in a timely manner (e.g. within an hour of receiving the call from the school). Please plan accordingly, and have a responsible adult who is willing and available to pick up your child. In the event you need to send someone that is not in your emergency contact list, make sure that you have communicated who the person is with the campus.
 - ◇ Continuously make sure all contact and emergency contact phone numbers are updated in Skyward.
- ◆ Students who report feeling feverish should be given an immediate temperature check to determine if they are symptomatic for COVID-19.
- ◆ Parents may also have their students receive remote instruction if their child has had close contact with an individual who is test-confirmed with COVID-19. The CDC's definition of close contact is:
 - ◇ Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated. (**Complete Definition**)

- ◆ Excluding parental drop-off and pick-up, before visitors are allowed on campuses, GCISD must screen all visitors to determine if the visitors have COVID-19 symptoms (as listed above) or are test-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry. GCISD will also be pre-screening and checking the temperatures of all contracted workers before they are allowed entrance on campus.
- ◆ Additionally, GCISD must screen to determine if visitors have had close contact with an individual who is test-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until the 10-14-day incubation period has passed.

GCISD Staff

- ◆ All school districts in the State must require teachers and staff to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus each day. In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, consider the following questions: Have they recently begun experiencing any of the following in a way that is not normal for them?
 - ◇ Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
 - ◇ Loss of taste or smell
 - ◇ Cough
 - ◇ Difficulty breathing
 - ◇ Shortness of breath
 - ◇ Fatigue
 - ◇ Headache
 - ◇ Chills
 - ◇ Sore throat
 - ◇ Congestion or runny nose
 - ◇ Shaking or exaggerated shivering
 - ◇ Significant muscle pain or ache
 - ◇ Diarrhea
 - ◇ Nausea or vomiting
- ◆ The self screening should include teachers and staff taking their own temperature. Teachers and staff must report to GCISD if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms or are test-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry.



Protocols for Individuals Confirmed or Showing Symptoms of COVID-19

- ◆ If an individual who has been in a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must notify its local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- ◆ Schools must close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the test-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 7 days have already passed since that person was on campus.
- ◆ Any individual - including teachers, staff, students or other campus visitors/volunteers - who themselves either a) are test-confirmed to have COVID-19 or b) experience symptoms of COVID-19 **must** stay at home throughout the infectious period, and cannot return to the campus until the District screens the individual to determine any of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met:
- ◆ In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when **all three** of the following criteria are met:

at least 24 hours passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications

the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g. cough, shortness of breath)

at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

- ◆ In the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who is not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, such individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to the campus until the individual has completed the same three-step set of criteria listed above.
- ◆ If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the above stay-at-home period, the individual must obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an **alternative** diagnosis or obtain an acute infection test at an approved testing location that comes back negative for COVID-19.

Notifications

- ◆ Consistent with school notification requirements set forth for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, schools must notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a school if a test-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participate in any on campus activities.
 - ◇ **Close Contact Notification** - In the event that a student or staff member was deemed to come in close contact with a test-confirmed case of COVID-19, they will be contacted directly by Tarrant County Public Health or GCISD Health Services. Additionally, all individuals who were deemed to be in close contact will receive written notice **similar to this template** regarding instructions for self-quarantine and requirements that must be met prior to returning to school.
 - ◇ **Campus Notification of Test-Confirmed Case** - The District will also notify the entire campus anytime there is a test-confirmed case of COVID-19 with the **following letter**. Although the District discloses case information to Tarrant County Public Health, we must maintain confidentiality for the individual who tests positive.

Close Contacts of Test-Confirmed COVID-19 Case

- ◆ Individuals - including students, teachers, staff or other campus visitors/volunteers - who have had close contact with someone who is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, must quarantine for at least 10 days and should not be allowed on campus.
- ◆ **As a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19, individuals should do the following:**
 - ◇ Stay home for 10 days after last exposure even if tested negative for COVID-19 or feeling healthy since symptoms may appear anytime from 2 to 14 days after exposure. When first contacted by GCISD Health Services, close contacts will be informed of the date they are eligible to return to campus.
 - ◇ Monitor themselves daily for any symptoms of COVID-19 including. Most people who contract COVID-19 experience no symptoms or very mild symptoms while others may become very ill.
 - ◇ **If close contacts have or develop any symptoms of COVID-19, they should:**
 - ◆ Isolate immediately and contact their doctor. Testing options and appointments for testing can be found at **[Tarrant County's website](#)**.

- ♦ If close contacts develop trouble breathing, shortness of breath, chest pain, or worsening COVID-19 symptoms, seek emergency medical care immediately or call 911.
- ◇ **If close contacts do not develop any symptoms of COVID-19:**
 - ♦ The quarantine period may be reduced from 14 days to 10 days if ALL of the following are met:
 - ♦ No clinical evidence of COVID-19 is observed by daily symptom monitoring during the entirety of quarantine up to the time at which quarantine is discontinued
 - ♦ Daily symptom monitoring continues through Day 14, even when students and staff return to school and work
 - ♦ The person adheres strictly, through Day 14 and beyond, to all recommended masking, distancing, and handwashing.
 - ♦ Close contacts do have the option to continue their quarantine period through 14 days. If students or staff plan to complete the 14-day quarantine instead of the 10-day quarantine, they need to contact the campus to let them know.
- ◆ After the quarantine period has concluded, and if the individual did not experience COVID-19 symptoms during that period, the individual can be allowed back on campus. If the individual experienced symptoms, they must stay at home until the conditions outlined above have been met.
- ◆ **Close contacts should adhere to the following:**
 - ◇ Do not go to work/school/extra curricular activities. If symptoms develop, notify supervisor, administrator or school nurse immediately by phone or email. Make arrangements to get tested, either through a private doctor or by scheduling an appointment at one of Tarrant County's drive-through testing sites. Seek emergency medical care if needed.
 - ◇ Limit contact with other persons, especially those who are over the age of 60 and those with underlying medical conditions. People who are at risk for worsening outcomes of COVID-19 include those with chronic lung disease, moderate to severe asthma, hypertension, heart disease, immunocompromised conditions, obesity, diabetes, liver disease, and chronic kidney disease.
 - ◇ If no symptoms have developed, but there is concern about exposing others, close contacts may get tested. Close contacts should inform their health-care provider that they were potentially exposed to a case of COVID-19. Practice frequent hand washing or use a hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol when soap and water are not readily available.
 - ◇ Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue and dispose of it in a trash receptacle. Use a sleeve at the elbow if a tissue is not available and wash hands after coughing or sneezing.

- ◇ Use cloth face coverings or procedure masks when around others.
- ◇ Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and shared objects between uses several times a day with a virucidal disinfectant capable of killing the COVID-19 virus. Avoid using or sharing of items that are not easily cleaned, sanitized, or disinfected.
- ◇ As long as a close contact does not have symptoms, other members of the family may go to work, or come to school and participate in campus activities. If anyone in the family begins to show COVID-like symptoms, please contact the school nurse for further guidance.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Masks

The following draft guidance was provided by the Texas Education Agency. Also incorporated are protocols specific to GCISD:



- ◆ Schools are required to comply with Governor Abbott's executive order regarding the wearing of masks. The order requires Texans living in counties with more than 20 coronavirus cases to wear a face covering over the nose and mouth while in a business or other building open to the public, as well as outdoor public spaces, whenever social distancing is not possible.
- ◆ In addition to the executive order, school systems may require the use of masks for adults or students for whom it is developmentally appropriate.
- ◆ TEA's definition of masks include non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth). Staff and students will appropriately wear face coverings at all times. District staff and students will practice these protocols during the first days of in-person instruction.
- ◆ Students in pre-kindergarten through second grade must wear a face covering in specific areas designated by the campus protocols and are strongly encouraged to wear it throughout the day.
- ◆ Students in third through twelfth grades will wear face coverings while at school unless there is an approved medical exemption as a result of 504 or an ARD.
- ◆ Elementary students will have a portable plexiglass desktop barrier, which may be carried to other locations in the building, should a student need to leave the classroom for additional support or instruction. This item will need to be cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis.
- ◆ Students in middle and high school will be provided with a 'gaiter' to wear during the school day. This item goes around the neck and may be pulled up to cover the mouth and nose. The gaiter provided by the District is double-ply

material across the mouth and nose with a pocket for an optional filter to provide a three-layer breathable cover. Each student will be provided one gaiter, or may choose to bring their own personal protective equipment, provided it meets the definition from TEA.

- ◆ It may be impractical for students to wear masks while participating in some non-UIL athletic or other extracurricular activities. When it is impractical for students to wear masks during those activities, schools must require students, teachers, staff, and visitors to wear masks when entering and exiting facilities and practice areas and when not actively engaging in those activities. Schools may, for example, allow students who are actively exercising to remove masks, as long as they maintain at least six feet of distance from other students, teachers, and staff who are not wearing masks. However, schools must require students, teachers, and staff to wear masks as they arrange themselves in positions that will allow them to maintain safe distancing.
- ◆ Campus and other reception areas will be equipped with plexiglass safety barriers.
- ◆ The Texas Education Agency recently announced that PPE would be purchased and provided to each district for use as needed. Students and staff will be able to wear their own mask if they so choose. Masks will be provided in the event that a student or staff member does not have their own mask. More information regarding a district provided mask will be shared at a later date.

Cleaning & Disinfectant Protocols

The following protocols, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, are based on current recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. On the first day a student attends school on campus, GCISD teachers will provide instruction to students on appropriate hygiene practices and other mitigation practices recommended by TEA.

Electrostatic Mistlers

- ◆ The District is using an eco neutral disinfectant in its electrostatic misters to help mitigate the outbreak of COVID-19. During the day, campus custodians will mist common touchpoints at campus entrances and restrooms when not in use by students or staff and allow the mist to dry. The misting of classrooms will take place during the evening when students and staff are not on campus. If a COVID-positive individual is identified during a school day, the area or areas used will be closed for a period of time to allow for misting.
- ◆ The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released an emerging viral pathogen policy, which approves the use of disinfectants for combating coronavirus, or COVID-19. The product the District uses is an EPA Registered

Disinfectant called Buckeye Eco Neutral Disinfectant. The chemicals included in the product are listed below as outlined on the Safety Data Sheet:

- ◇ Didecyldimethylammonium chloride
 - ◇ Alkyl dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride
 - ◇ Ethyl Alcohol
 - ◇ Sodium hydroxide
 - ◇ Alkyloxypolyethyleneoxyethanol
 - ◇ EDTA
- ◆ The District has used the Buckeye product for several years to disinfect surfaces, however, the use was not as frequent as is needed with COVID-19. The District is misting every evening and after any weekend activity. As with any disinfecting product, care should be taken to prevent inhalation.

Classrooms

- ◆ On the first day a student attends school on campus, GCISD teachers will provide instruction to students on appropriate hygiene practices and other mitigation practices recommended by TEA.
- ◆ Every campus classroom, front office and nurse's office will have disinfecting surface wipes to use throughout the day. This is in addition to regular cleaning and promoting healthy hygiene habits of washing your hands, covering your mouth when you cough and staying home when you are sick.
- ◆ All classrooms and offices will have hand sanitizer and tissues. For classrooms or lab rooms equipped with sinks, soap and paper towels will be available for student and staff use. All classrooms will have hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes.
- ◆ The state recommends that each school district provide students the opportunity to clean their own spaces before and after they are used in ways that are safe and developmentally appropriate.
- ◆ Classrooms also have tissues to encourage the covering of nose and mouth if sneezing or coughing without a face covering. Evening custodians will electrostatically mist every classroom, office, break room, locker room, etc. every night.
- ◆ The department uses vacuums with HEPA filters.
- ◆ Beginning in third grade, students will wear face coverings during the school day. Teachers will also wear face coverings.
- ◆ The District is ordering individual clear student shields for students in Pre-K through fifth grade. These three-sided shields are portable, sit on any flat surface and provide a transparent plastic barrier between children and their teacher. Teachers also will have a clear barrier for their desk. Students in pre-k



through second grade will also wear face coverings in hallways, common areas and during arrival and dismissal.

Restrooms

- ◆ Restrooms will be disinfected three times during the school day by removing and disposing of trash, mopping floors and wiping all surfaces with disinfectant. Every evening this process will occur again and the restrooms will also be misted with the germicide.
- ◆ Facility Services has checked all restrooms to ensure they have operable soap dispensers and all dispensers are filled with soap. Paper towels are available for individual use and placement in trash receptacles.

Touchpoints

- ◆ Touchpoints are the items that individuals come into contact with on a frequent basis such as door handles, elevator buttons, light switches, countertops, phones, keyboards and other office equipment and shared classroom items. Teaching staff, students and other campus staff will have access to gloves, hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes to disinfect shared items and commonly touched items in their spaces throughout the day. This is in addition to students taking breaks to wash hands in the restrooms. Classrooms with sinks will have soap and paper towels for additional hand washing.
- ◆ Day custodial personnel will also be disinfecting common touchpoints in high-traffic areas several times during the school day and in other District facilities.
- ◆ Main campus entrances will have portable hand sanitizer stands. Additionally, the main entrance from playgrounds and athletic fields will have sanitizing stations.
- ◆ Clear barriers are being stationed at reception areas where there is interaction with students, staff and visitors.

Custodial Personnel

- ◆ Custodial personnel will wear gloves and face coverings at all times. They have been trained to focus on touchpoints, misting devices, and the need for increased disinfecting of restrooms and locker rooms. The campus day custodian will be focused on touchpoints and restrooms during the school day.

Social Distancing Protocols

The following guidance was issued from TEA:

- ◆ Where feasible without disrupting the educational experience, encourage students to practice social distancing.
 - ◇ In classroom spaces that allow it, consider placing student desks a minimum of six feet apart when possible.
 - ◇ In classrooms where students are regularly within six feet of one another, schools should plan for more frequent hand washing and/or hand sanitizing and should consider whether increased airflow from the outdoors is possible.
- ◆ Students and staff will be trained in proper social distancing.
- ◆ Signage will be provided to help assist students and staff with social distancing in common spaces and hallways.
- ◆ Social distancing becomes a personal responsibility of each individual attending school or coming to a GCISD facility. Anyone causing a disruption or unwilling to follow GCISD safety protocols, putting students/staff at unnecessary risk, may be asked to leave the premises immediately.

Playgrounds/Recess

- ◆ As a proactive measure, recess will limit large group interaction in one or more of the following ways:
 - ◇ Students will go to recess in cohort groups (by classroom)
 - ◇ Students may interact in pods (small groups of students)
 - ◇ Recess duration may be shortened
- ◆ With the proximity of students playing together at recess, masks are required.
- ◆ Masks may be removed at recess when the student is 6 feet apart from others or engaged in aerobic activity (like soccer).

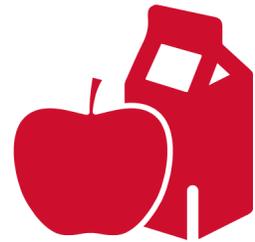
Attendance and Enrollment

- ◆ If a student misses five consecutive days of in-person instruction, or five days total during a three-week period, they will be moved into remote instruction for the remainder of that grading period. Students who are in a mandatory quarantine due to COVID-19 are exempt from this mandatory instructional change.
- ◆ If a student is rostered in an all-in-person classroom and unable to attend school in-person, the student will complete their work asynchronously. Teachers with full in-person student rosters will not have live Webex sessions for in-person students that are unable to attend school.
- ◆ If a student is rostered in a blended classroom (remote and in-person students) and unable to attend school in-person, the student may complete their work synchronously or asynchronously.
- ◆ Families that select in-person instruction may change to remote instruction at any time during the nine-week grading period, as long as prior notice is given

to the campus counselor. Families that select remote instruction may change from remote to in-person learning, that may only be done at the end of a grading period. **[Instructions and dates for when that change can be made can be found here.](#)**

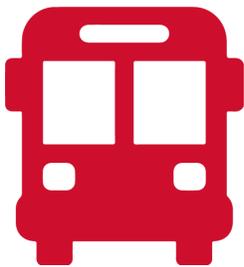
Nutrition Services

- ◆ Elementary students will be able to eat lunch in the cafeteria with the following safety protocols in place. Each student will have an assigned seat, with the appropriate social distancing and must use their plexiglass divider. As a reminder, this should be cleaned regularly by the student with a disinfectant wipe. Secondary students will be able to eat lunch in the cafeteria, and high school students will also be able to eat at some of the campuses outdoor spaces. Appropriate social distancing will be enforced for students eating in the cafeteria or outside.
- ◆ For meal service itself, meals and other food items will be served in disposable food service items for students. Parents will not be able to drop off lunch for their student or eat lunch with their student. During this time, please either send lunch or your student will need to purchase a meal from the cafeteria.
- ◆ As of September 22, 2020, GCISD elementary and middle school cafeterias are able to offer free breakfasts and lunches to all students. Sponsored by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), this program will allow any student in elementary or middle school to receive a free breakfast and lunch meal in the school cafeteria, with the option to purchase a-la-carte items. Additionally, the District will offer meal bundles at no cost available for curbside pick-up that will contain meals for the entire week, including the weekend.
- ◆ GCISD's high schools do not participate in the federally-funded program and therefore meals will be charged as normal in those cafeterias; however, high school students are able to pick up a meal bundle from one of the curbside locations.
- ◆ High school cafeteria meals will be provided under the regulations of the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program (NSLP). Therefore, students must qualify for free or reduced meals by filling out an online application at **www.schoollunchapp.com**. Students who do not apply or do not qualify will pay regular prices for meals.
 - ◇ The regular price of meals:
 - ◆ Breakfast K-8: \$1.45
 - ◆ Elementary School Lunch: \$2.70
 - ◆ Middle School Lunch: \$2.80



- ◆ High School Lunch: \$3.20
- ◇ NSLP price of reduced meals:
 - ◆ Breakfast: \$0.30
 - ◆ Lunch: \$0.40
- ◆ Parents of all students are encouraged to continue filling out the free and reduced application online at www.schoollunchapp.com. The benefits from being approved for free or reduced-price meals may include discounts for transportation, standardized tests, college application fees and technology fees to name a few.
- ◆ For questions about the program, contact the Nutrition Services office at 817-251-5618 or email child.nutrition@gcisd.net

Transportation



- ◆ The District offers the following guidance to parents and guardians regarding school bus transportation for daily bus routes. Bus routes will run at regular capacity. Although the District is implementing the safety protocols and disinfecting efforts described below, families are encouraged to drop students off, carpool or walk with their student to school to reduce possible exposure on buses.
 - ◆ *We are requiring all of our drivers and students to wear masks while on the school bus.* Due to the close proximity of students that ride buses, all students, except special education students, will be required to wear facial coverings at the bus stop and while on the bus without exception. Students that cannot wear a face covering may not ride the bus and will need alternate transportation to and from campus. Bus drivers, regardless of their route type, will also wear facial coverings.

Bus Stop Expectations

- ◆ Students should have on masks while waiting at the bus stop.
- ◆ Students should practice social distancing, whenever possible (if there is adequate space and it is safe to do so) while waiting for and approaching the school bus.
- ◆ Students should NOT share food, drinks or personal devices.

Boarding Bus Procedures

- ◆ Students should practice social distancing as they approach and board the bus.
- ◆ Buses are equipped with hand sanitizer at the step entry (stairwell) and students will be instructed to use hand sanitizer as they enter the bus.
- ◆ Seating: Once on the bus, middle and high school students will be seated starting from the back seats. Elementary students will continue to ride the

bus seated by grade level, beginning with kindergarten at the front and working back towards fifth-grade. An exception to this will be that siblings are able to sit together, regardless of grade-level. All elementary students will continue to have assigned seats.

- ◆ Students should NOT share food, drinks or personal devices.
- ◆ Secondary students are asked to use their device to scan a QR code upon entering a GCISD bus. The QR code links to a form that requires students to enter their bus number, campus, name, student ID number and seat number. Once they submit the form, they will sit in their assigned seat. This process will allow us to quickly and accurately identify and communicate with close contacts associated with the test-confirmed student or staff member.

Unloading Procedure

- ◆ Unloading will start from the front to the back.
- ◆ Students should practice social distancing and follow campus guidelines.
- ◆ Students should NOT share food, drinks or personal devices.

Disinfecting Protocol Between Routes

- ◆ Buses will be disinfected multiple times during the day.
- ◆ School bus drivers will be spraying high-touch items in the interior of buses with disinfecting spray.
- ◆ TEA also recommends opening bus windows when possible to allow outside air circulation in the bus

Protocols for Campus Visitors

- ◆ Campuses will utilize virtual meeting options to limit campus visitors when possible. All visitors who enter the building will be required to wear a face covering. Individuals who proceed beyond the reception area will follow specific guidelines for visitors.
- ◆ Individuals proceeding beyond the reception area will be subject to the following guidelines:
 - ◇ All visitors will be subject to screening by way of a symptom screening form.
 - ◇ Virtual meetings will be available when possible.
 - ◇ Visitors and staff will maintain physical distancing for ARD and other meetings in smaller conference areas.
- ◆ Several GCISD schools are equipped with check-in kiosks. Hand sanitizer stations will be in the vestibule for use before and after touching the kiosk check-in screen.

- ◆ Parents will not be able to drop off lunch for their student or eat lunch with their student. During this time, please either send lunch or your student will need to purchase a meal from the cafeteria.

Large-Group Gatherings & Special Event Announcements

- ◆ During the spring semester, GCISD will avoid scheduling non-essential large group gatherings and events where adults and students must commingle indoors or where students would be unnecessarily exposed to the virus in public places such as field trips, assemblies, dances, public pep rallies, PTA fun nights, etc.

Extracurricular Participation

The information that follows is based on guidance from the UIL as well as the Texas Education Agency.

- ◆ Students will be eligible to participate in in-person extracurricular activities regardless of which instructional method is selected.
- ◆ The TEA has determined all Career and Technical Education courses can be provided through remote instruction or a combination of remote and on-campus instruction. More details will be provided at a later date.
 - ◆ All participants, coaches and directors will follow rules established by the University Interscholastic League and the Texas Education Agency. UIL guidance can be found on the [UIL Website](#).
 - ◆ Schools must follow TEA screening requirements and screen students and staff members before allowing them to participate in UIL activities. If a student or staff member has been screened by the school for purposes of participating in instruction, there is no reason to screen separately before allowing the staff or student to participate in UIL activities.
- ◆ In response to healthcare providers' focus on the COVID-19 pandemic, the UIL recently waived the required pre-participation physical examination for students involved in marching band/athletics who already have a physical on file for the 2019-2020 school year. Students who are new or do not have a physical already on file, will be required to get a physical and complete the pre-participation physical examination form BEFORE participating in marching band/athletics for the 2020-2021 school year. This was approved by the GCISD Board of Trustees at the June 15, 2020 regular meeting.
- ◆ Coaches will follow UIL guidelines established for athletic period skill training as well as strength and conditioning. Coaches will follow in-season practice limits, and off-season programs will comply with those limits per UIL. Many of the same rules that have been in effect will continue but highlights are listed below:
 - ◇ Staff and students must self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms.
 - ◇ Parents must ensure they do not send a student to participate in UIL activities if the student has COVID-19 symptoms or is test-confirmed with COVID-19 until the below conditions for re-entry are met. Coaches will also screen students for COVID-19.
 - ◇ For extracurricular activities, all employees, parents and students ten years of age or older must wear face coverings when entering and exiting facilities and practice areas, and when not actively practicing or

exercising unless an exception applies, as outlined under the section titled **Personal Protective Equipment and Masks**. Students who are actively exercising may remove face coverings as long as they maintain at least six feet of distance from other students and staff who are not wearing face coverings. However, schools must require students and staff to wear face coverings as they get into positions that allow them to maintain safe distancing.

- ◇ All athletes are grouped in a cohort for workouts. Student athletes remain in this group the entire practice or class period and are kept separate from other cohorts.
- ◇ Indoor workout activities can be conducted up to a maximum capacity of 50% or limit the total number of participants based on available space to allow for the appropriate distancing between students and staff.
- ◇ Competitive drills involving one or more students on offense against one or more students on defense may be conducted beginning July 13, 2020.
- ◆ According to TEA guidance, locker rooms and showers may be accessed beginning Monday, August 17 at 50% capacity at any given time.
- ◆ Students still need to bring their own water bottles, but water will be available for refilling. A designated person will be responsible for refilling the water bottles and will be wearing gloves and a mask.
- ◆ Hand sanitizer is readily available in workout areas.
- ◆ All areas will be disinfected at the end of the day. Surfaces in workout areas are disinfected throughout the workout periods. Any equipment used is disinfected during workout sessions and equipment shall not be shared between groups.
- ◆ Transportation to competitions will follow TEA and GCISD guidelines. Parents may sign their child out after their event with the coach, but students will only be allowed to travel with their parents.
- ◆ GCISD Fine Arts will not use shared equipment if possible. The few equipment items that must be shared (mainly large percussion instruments) will be disinfected after use and in-between each student's use. Students will enter and exit in a staggered manner to ensure no crowding around instrument lockers in band halls. GCISD staff will clean high touch areas during and after each rehearsal. Additionally, screening protocols will continue, staff must wear face coverings and face coverings will be required of participants except while doing an activity when a face covering cannot be worn.
- ◆ GCISD will be offering all Secondary Fine Arts courses that have been traditionally offered, including Band, Choir, Theatre, Visual Arts, and HS Dance. Elementary Students will continue to receive instruction in both Music and Visual Art.

Spectator Information

- ◆ According to TEA and UIL guidelines, all GCISD venues hosting athletics and fine arts events are limited to 50 percent capacity. There will not be “student sections” at any games due to limited seating availability.
- ◆ All spectators attending GCISD athletics and fine arts events at middle schools and high school are required to:
 - ◇ Wear a mask or face covering throughout the event.
 - ◇ Socially distance from other spectators and leave the event as soon as your child’s competition is over.
 - ◇ Purchase a ticket online (no tickets will be sold at the gate).
 - ◇ Self-screen for symptoms of COVID-19 before attending an event. Symptoms include feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit, loss of taste or smell, cough, difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, fatigue, headache, chills, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, shaking or exaggerated shivering, significant muscle pain or ache, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting. If you are exhibiting any of these symptoms, please stay home.
- ◆ More details about online ticketing and game procedures can be found [on our website](#).