



GRISWOLD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

REOPENING SCHOOLS
2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR
OPERATIONAL PLAN

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE HYBRID MODEL AT GHS

Why hybrid? Why now?

- Governor Lamont & Commissioner Cardona have now made the Hybrid model an option for school districts whereas at the time we had to initially submit our plan, the Hybrid model was not an option.
- The Hybrid model allows schools to have approximately 50% of students in the building at a time with 50% on distance learning, and the Hybrid model allows the school district to designate one school day a week for highly intensified deep cleaning.
- Griswold Public Schools has joined with many other districts in the region to begin the 2020-2021 school year with the Hybrid model. At this juncture, our plan is to start the school year with the Hybrid model, reassess, and then eventually move to full-time, in-person learning.
- This cannot be emphasized enough: The information flow with school reopening changes weekly, if not daily. While this may be frustrating, please know we are doing our best to address the changes and make informed decisions for Griswold Public Schools.

Griswold High School will follow the hybrid model below. Here are some important considerations:

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday are full days of in-person learning for 50% of our student population. On those days, 50% of our student population will be on distance learning. On Wednesdays, all students will be on distance learning to allow for our custodial staff to focus on one full school day of intense, deep cleaning.

MODEL	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
IN-PERSON MODEL BY COHORT (HYBRID)	COHORT A (IN PERSON)	COHORT A (IN PERSON)	ALL STUDENTS ON DISTANCE LEARNING	COHORT A (DISTANCE)	COHORT A (DISTANCE)
	GES/GMS ALPHA A-K	GES/GMS ALPHA A-K		GES/GMS ALPHA A-K	GES/GMS ALPHA A-K
	GHS GRADES 9 & 10	GHS GRADES 9 & 10		GHS GRADES 9 & 10	GHS GRADES 9 & 10
	COHORT B (DISTANCE)	COHORT B (DISTANCE)		COHORT B (IN PERSON)	COHORT B (IN PERSON)
	GES/GMS ALPHA L-Z	GES/GMS ALPHA L-Z		GES/GMS ALPHA L-Z	GES/GMS ALPHA L-Z
	GHS GRADES 11 & 12	GHS GRADES 11 & 12		GHS GRADES 11 & 12	GHS GRADES 11 & 12

- Monday & Tuesday:** 9th & 10th grade cohorts will report to Griswold High School for full days of in-person learning. 11th & 12th grade cohorts will be on distance learning. **We will follow our normal school day schedule on Monday & Tuesday, with our first class beginning at 7:35 a.m.**
- Wednesday:** All students will be on distance learning. **We will follow our DISTANCE LEARNING SCHEDULE, with our first class beginning at 8 a.m.**
- Thursday & Friday:** 11th & 12th grade cohorts will report to Griswold High School for full days of in-person learning. 9th & 10th grade cohorts will be on distance learning. **We will follow our normal school day schedule on Thursday & Friday, with our first class beginning at 7:35 a.m. See visual below:**

Schedule on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday (for all cohorts)		Schedule on Wednesday (for all cohorts)	
7:35-8:57	A Period	7:15-7:45	INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF ONLY (Cohort/Faculty/Department Meetings)
9:02-10:19	B Period	7:45-8	Announcements
10:24-12:11	C Period (with lunch waves)	8-8:45	A Period
12:16-1:33	D Period	8:45-9:05	A Period FLEX TIME <i>Time for student practice, collaboration, feedback & support</i>
1:38-2:19	SIB & Specialized Classes	9:05-9:15	BREAK
		9:15-10	B Period

	10-10:20	B Period FLEX TIME
	10:20-10:30	BREAK
	10:30-11:15	C Period
	11:15-11:35	C Period FLEX TIME
	11:35-12:15	LUNCH
	12:15-1	D Period
	1-1:20	D Period FLEX TIME
	1:20-1:30	BREAK
	1:30-2:15	SIB & Specialty Classes
	2:15-2:30	INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF ONLY (Cohort/Department Collaboration)

- **Under the hybrid model, can parents and students still opt for district sponsored full remote learning?**
 - Yes, and such students must complete our district learning form and submit it to the school, preferably before August 20th.
- **On Wednesdays, will the buildings be open?**
 - Yes, our building offices will be open and administration will be available.
 - Select staff will be in the buildings depending on programming and student needs. Teachers who opt to come into the buildings to teach from their classrooms on Wednesdays will have to notify building administration.
- **Will Bus Transportation be provided?**
 - Yes, bus transportation will be provided. We will work closely with STA-Griswold to ensure that students are transported to and from school on their required days.
- **How does cafeteria/food service work?**
 - For in-person learning on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, we will follow our normal cafeteria/food service schedules.
 - Grab & Go will be available for all students who are opting for distance learning on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.
 - For students who are eligible for free reduced and lunch, the “grab and go” lunches will align to the free and reduced applicability.
 - For students who are not eligible for “grab and go,” meal prices would apply.
 - Grab & Go Service will also be available on Wednesday for all students
 - Grab & Go Service will operate daily at GMS from 8:00 am-9:30 am.
- **What will the first two-weeks of school look like, given the shortened weeks and half-days? That is a good question, as the first two weeks will look slightly different. ALL STUDENTS WHO OPT OUT FOR DISTANCE LEARNING WILL RECEIVE GUIDANCE FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE SCHOOLS. Here is the schedule below:**

WEEK 1

MONDAY, 8/31	TUESDAY, 9/1	WEDNESDAY, 9/2	THURSDAY, 9/3	FRIDAY, 9/4
NO SCHOOL PD DAY	NO SCHOOL PD DAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FIRST DAY ½ DAY FOR ALL COHORT A (9th & 10th) STUDENTS ONLY. COHORT B (10th & 11th) STUDENTS WILL START ON THURSDAY, 9/3. Full day for staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SECOND DAY ½ DAY FOR ALL COHORT B (11th & 12th) STUDENTS AND GPS EDUCATORS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> THIRD DAY ½ DAY FOR ALL COHORT B (11th & 12th) STUDENTS AND GPS EDUCATORS. ½ DAY DISTANCE LEARNING FOR ALL COHORT A (9th & 10th) STUDENTS.

WEEK 2

MONDAY, 9/7	TUESDAY, 9/8	WEDNESDAY, 9/9	THURSDAY, 9/10	FRIDAY, 9/11
NO SCHOOL LABOR DAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FULL DAY FOR ALL COHORT A STUDENTS ONLY. FULL DAY OF DISTANCE LEARNING FOR ALL COHORT B. 	ALL STUDENTS AND FACULTY WILL BE ON DISTANCE LEARNING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FULL DAY FOR ALL COHORT B STUDENTS. FULL DAY OF DISTANCE LEARNING FOR ALL COHORT A. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FULL DAY FOR ALL COHORT B STUDENTS. FULL DAY OF DISTANCE LEARNING FOR ALL COHORT A.

GHS Fall Athletics - Athletics will have a delayed start and modified schedules. See chart below for highlighted version of the plan: [CIAC Fall 2020 Plan](#)

	First Practice Cohort of 15	First Practice Full Team/ Contact	First Scrim.	First Contest	Max Games	Games /Week	Last Date	Post Season (Format TBA)
Cross Country	8/27	9/11	NA	9/24	12	2	10/30	10/31-11/8
Football	8/17	9/11	9/18	9/24	6	1	10/30	11/2-11/15
B/G Soccer	8/27	9/11	9/18	9/24	12	2	10/30	11/2-11/15
Volleyball	8/27	9/11	9/18	9/24	12	2	10/30	11/2-11/15

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Additional Questions:

I was wondering if tomorrow you could address the question of working from home during full distance learning, should GPS move into that model at any time?

- I know this question is on the top of many minds as we approach the school year. We've discussed the plan for hybrid - leaving Wednesday as the optional day for staff of working from home or school. I do not know what the expectation will be if we have to transition to full distance learning. I know we all want to work together to do what we can to support one another.

Will we still have advisory?

- Building and maintaining positive relationships with our students will be top priority through this year (it always should be, of course, but especially now). We are not beginning the year with formal Advisory dates, but hope to embed within cohorts. It wouldn't make sense for us to mix cohorts for advisory with the guidelines in terms of health and safety.

Will we need to plan anything for SIBs or are they definitely like study halls?

- Study halls (students won't have one with 4x4), with the exception of specialty classes only (chamber, yearbook, CNA, select band and select orchestra only at this point).

Are we still signing agendas to send kids to the bathroom?

- One student will be permitted out of the classroom to use the bathroom at a time. There will be monitors logging students in and out of the restrooms. Teachers will be expected to keep a log, but we'll likely stay away from sharing agendas to sign passes.

Are the start and end times for each block staying the same as last year?

- Yes ... no passing between classes, though. That will be for in class break/transition of teachers. Teams will need to work to provide breaks for students in the classroom as they see fit. And, outside time is encouraged when possible.

For the kids at home, are they live streaming us or is it a google meet we set up? If it's live stream, the kid probably won't have the opportunity to contribute verbally.

- I envisioned a Google Meet, and/or whatever the teacher is most comfortable using. This will be a big change for all of us and we'll need to share out ideas/strategies that work.

Since there will be no school assemblies or such, how are the kids going to learn about the dos and don'ts of this new way? Will it be reviewed by the first period teacher, or assembly via morning announcements, or some other way?

- This is a work in progress, but something we will definitely look to cover in the first 6.5 days of PD. Also, Marci and I are organizing parent and student forums for discussions, as well as preparing a video for families ahead of the school year.

It sounds as though faculty and staff have to provide their own masks. Is it the same for our students?

- Masks will be provided for any faculty/staff/student in need.

If cohorts are by grade level, what happens with a student who may be in a junior English class but has a sophomore math class?

- We have done our best to make these accommodations by placing in the most appropriate cohort. However, any unique situation will be addressed on an individualized basis.

If the building is truly safe, why are students still being given the option for distance learning? I realize there has to be consideration for students with health issues and students with the responsibility for younger siblings but shouldn't those be the only considerations?

- This is a state mandate as an option for all parents and families. We have done our work with this understanding. As far as in the building, we have done our very best to adhere to the guidelines put forth by the state in bringing students/staff back to school.

If we do get sick, will there be workers' comp or do we have to use our sick time?

- I do not have an answer for this on the whole, as we have never experienced the situation. I know, on a district level, it will be handled on a case by case basis based on the individual scenario. I hope to have more information on this moving forward, as it is a very good question.

Do teachers report to the building on days when their cohort is in distance learning? If yes, doesn't this defeat the purpose of separating the school by cohort? If yes, to where is this teacher to report for the day when their cohort is at home?

- As of right now, teachers are expected to report to school on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Wednesdays are optional, as it is a full distance learning and deep cleaning day. 9th and 10th grade cohorts will be separate from 11th and 12th grade cohorts. Therefore, after Monday and Tuesday, custodians can focus on those specific areas of the building and have time to prepare for Thursday and Friday's cohorts. On the distance learning days, the teacher will report to his/her classroom to facilitate distance learning. The teacher will not have students in his/her class on that day.

How will students be monitored while teachers are moving from room to room between classes?

- Since the teachers will be rotating in their designated cohort area of the school, there will not be long lapses of time where students are left unsupervised. However, our hope is that teachers will communicate with one another and us if they need someone to help monitor their class, so they can take a bathroom break or take care of something important in between classes. Having half the students and the full staff on board at one time will afford us the benefit of having more adults on hand to help out with supervision and relieving teachers when needed, as well as our paraeducators.

Will grading be more clearly defined and more rigorous than in the spring?

- Based on our most recent conversations regarding grading, we will be returning to our traditional grading practices. Of course, we will need to have more focused discussion and a plan should we return to full- distance learning. We also have a distance learning consultant from Context Edu to help provide us with resources and effective practices.

Can we distribute physical paper assignments or must everything be digital?

- We are trying to limit physical paper assignments as much as possible. This will be a shift for many teachers, so we intend on offering professional development around the use of technology to help teachers become more comfortable with online teaching tools and platforms, particularly, Google Classroom. We learned from our July survey that many teachers are still struggling with the technology piece, so we are making it a priority.

Will textbooks be going back and forth?

- When necessary, students will still use textbooks. My suggestion is that they keep them in their own space or under their desks instead of bringing them home. Part of our sanitation protocols will most likely include having students wipe them down before and after use.

Will students be held accountable for not bringing materials to class?

- I view the first few weeks of school with students as an orientation. There will be a lot of discussions between teachers and students about expectations, protocols, and how to prepare in any scenario in order to be successful for the school year. Since this is new territory for all of us, I believe we have to continue to be flexible and compassionate. Since this disruption, they are completely off their routines, and we'll have to work on transitioning them into a new type of normalcy for however long this lasts. My suggestion is for cohort teams to come up with common expectations. I would stay away from punitive measures as a response to lack of preparedness during the "grace period". If we find that it becomes a trend, then we can troubleshoot an effective way to help students get on board.

Will students be told to supply themselves with highlighters, pens and pencils, will these be provided to students by the school to keep in their bags, or will we be making them available for use in the room?

- Each year, we expect students to come prepared to learn with the essential materials, such as a notebook, writing utensil, etc. We know that there are many families experiencing hardship who won't have the luxury of buying these items. My suggestion is to try and get a feel of which students may be in need of supplies, and I will happily do what I can to make sure they have what they need, so they aren't relying on "community classroom supplies". I know we will have some extra materials at school, as well. We should stay away from sharing supplies, such as pens and pencils as much as possible; however, if we wipe them down after each use, then we should be okay. It's inevitable that we will have to share some things.

If students are gloved and masked can they work "together" (but distanced) at lab tables?

- Yes.

Can you explain or show a chart of how the "specialty" cohort is going to work the first few weeks with rotating Green and White days. I assume I will only be seeing them in person one time a week. Is that correct?

- That is correct...11/12 grade on Thursday and Friday. I am sure that, between your cohort team of teachers, you can make adjustments on weeks that seem off balanced. This is the same for our part time staff only here on "Green" OR "White" days.

