

**SOUTHWEST
GEORGIA STEM
CHARTER SCHOOL**

Re-Opening of School for 2020-2021

Please keep in mind that this is a PLAN and is subject to change based on the latest information available from the Governor, State Superintendent of Schools, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Public Health, etc.

There will be two options for learning:

- **Traditional Learning Setting:** Attend school Monday – Thursday with a Distance Learning day on Friday
- **Full Distance Learning Setting:** Full Distance Learning through Google Classroom from home
- There will be a form for all parents to sign their child(ren) up for one of the options. The commitment to the option will last for a complete 9 weeks grading period (unless changes must be made due to extenuating circumstances). Changes may be made after the first 9 weeks grading period.

Re-Entry for the Traditional Setting

- School begins on August 12th for students
- Students will physically come to school on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of each week.
- Fridays will be a day devoted to a deep cleaning of the school and distance learning day for all (students will be issued a Chromebook device unless they do not need a device).
- Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School will have masks available for staff, no-touch thermometers, sanitizing stations, CDC approved disinfectant that kills the virus on surfaces, signage on walls about proper measures to prevent the spread of the virus, among many other measures available for students and staff.

Re-Entry for the Distance Learning Setting

- Students will pick up a device and their Google Classroom login information from the school during the week of August 3rd – 7th
- Students will use the week of August 3rd – 7th to ensure that they are able to log into Google Classroom and watch a brief tutorial that covers Google Classroom navigation
- Distance Learning begins on August 12th for students

TRADITIONAL SETTING EXPECTATIONS

Beginning of the Day

Students will...

- ✓ BUS: Get temperature checked before entering the bus – Parents will wait in the parking lot until their child is cleared to enter (no fever)
- ✓ DROP-OFF: Get temperature checked before entering the building – Parents will wait in the car rider line until their child is cleared to enter (no fever)
- ✓ Masks are encouraged, but - at this time - are optional for students and staff
- ✓ Eat breakfast in the cafeteria and auditorium – practicing social distancing. If too many are in the designated areas – breakfast will be taken to classrooms in a covered to-go plate

Bus Driver and Monitor will...

- Get temperature checked before entering the building
- Masks are encouraged, but - at this time - are optional for students and staff

During the Day

Students will...	Teacher will...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Practice Social Distancing in the classrooms✓ Masks are encouraged, but - at this time - are optional for students and staff✓ Reminders to wash hands when going to the restroom✓ Use the sanitizing stations if needed – located in the hallways and throughout the buildings✓ Alert the teacher if not feeling well and go to the school nurse	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Practice Social Distancing in the classrooms➤ Masks are encouraged, but - at this time - are optional for students and staff➤ Reminders to wash hands when going to the restroom➤ Use the sanitizing stations if needed – located in the hallways and throughout the buildings➤ Be cognizant of students who may not feel well – send to the school nurse➤ Rotate to the classrooms to instruct students (if grade level appropriate)

Hallways & Restroom Breaks

Students will...	Teachers will...
<p>Hallways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Practice social distancing✓ Use sanitization stations✓ Masks are encouraged, but - at this time - are optional for students and staff <p>Restrooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Use wait time to ensure the appropriate number of students are in the restroom (no gathering)✓ Use hand soap and wash hands appropriately	<p>Hallways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Ensure that students are practicing social distancing➤ Ensure that students are using sanitizing stations as needed➤ Masks are encouraged, but - at this time - are optional for students and staff <p>Bathrooms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Ensure that the appropriate number of students are in the restroom (no gathering)➤ Ensure that students are washing their hands accordingly

Lunchroom

Students will...	Teachers will...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Wash hands and/or sanitize before entering to the lunchroom✓ Practice social distancing in line✓ Masks are encouraged, but - at this time - are optional for students and staff✓ Receive a covered tray from the cafeteria staff who will be wearing gloves and face mask at all times✓ Eat in the cafeteria/auditorium if they are in the two youngest grade levels during the lunch period✓ Eat in the classroom if they are in the older grade levels during their lunch period✓ Wash hands and/or sanitize before returning to the classrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Monitor students to ensure that social distancing during lunch is appropriate➤ Masks are encouraged, but - at this time - are optional for students and staff➤ Monitor to ensure that students are washing hands and/or sanitizing before and after lunch

Recess

Students will...	Teachers will...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Be allowed to play with only one grade level per time on the playground✓ Practice social distancing✓ Masks are encouraged, but - at this time - are optional for students and staff✓ Bring their own water bottle to the playground✓ Wash hands and/or sanitize before entering the classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Ensure that only one grade level is on the playground at any given time➤ Masks are encouraged, but - at this time - are optional for students and staff➤ Ensure that all students are washing their hands/sanitizing before entering the classroom

Dismissal

Students will...	Teachers will...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Be dismissed by grade level for the buses and pick up line✓ Practice social distancing✓ Masks are encouraged, but - at this time - are optional for students and staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Walk their class to the buses/car ride lines➤ Masks are encouraged, but - at this time - are optional for students and staff

DISTANCE LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

When you sign up for Distance Learning (we will share the sign up form during the week of July 13th), you will be committed to the decision for a 9 week period. After the first 9 week ends, you may change to traditional if you prefer.

Before considering Distance Learning...

- Please ensure that you have reliable Internet Access to support the instruction and assignments for your child. If Internet Access is an issue, please indicate this when you sign up for this option
- All students – Traditional and Distance Learning – will receive a Chromebook device (unless you choose not to) to access their instruction and submit assignments
- Differences between 20-21 Distance Learning and Distance Learning at the end of March when school closed unexpectedly for COVID-19:
 - Students will be expected to log into Google Classroom each day (grades Pre-K – 9)
 - Students will receive grade level instruction
 - Students will be expected to submit all assignments weekly
 - Students will be graded on the assignments that are submitted
 - Teachers will have assigned times during the day on Monday-Thursday and a full day on Friday to respond to messages, hold virtual class meetings, answer parent and student questions. We have to remember that our teachers will be teaching a full day in the traditional setting, so they will not be able to respond to messages throughout the day and night.

Beginning of the Day

Students will...	Teacher will...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Login to Google Classroom each day for attendance purposes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Check attendance each by 12:00 PM to record attendance for Distance Learning students

During the Day

Students will...	Teacher will...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Log into Google Classroom to access instruction and assignments for the day✓ Attempt to complete the assignments throughout the day – if there are questions regarding the instruction and/or assignments, send the teacher a message in Google Classroom✓ Distance Learning is self-paced, but all weekly assignments are due no later than each Friday at 3:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Monitor the assignments and respond to messages in Google Classroom each day during their designated planning times (these times differ for each teacher, but will be shared with the parents and students)

Anticipated Questions

- **What if a teacher or student has the virus?**

- The Georgia Department of Public Health has provided us with different scenarios and ways to handle it. We will work with them to ensure that all safety measures are in place when handling confirmed cases of the virus. If the school must close for a period of time, all students will participate in Distance Learning. We will work with Department of Public Health to handle individual scenarios. Your child's safety will be at the forefront of all decisions.

- **What will happen to the Traditional Learning students if the school building must close because of the virus?**

- All Traditional Learning students will be issued a Chromebook for checkout and will be using Google Classroom while at school, so they will transition over to Distance Learning if the school building must close for a period of time.

I know you all have other questions – this is a broad view of the overall plan. Please send questions to me through email galmon@sowegastemcharter.org and I will compile a FAQ list, so everyone can have a copy.