



GREENWICH TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

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March 22, 2021
Dear GTSD Families,

The Greenwich Township School District has been implementing our Restart and Recovery Plan to Reopen Schools since the start of the 2020-2021 school year; the goal of this plan is to provide all students and employees with the appropriate health and safety conditions that would allow us to provide a thorough and efficient educational experience. We have reviewed current information, data, and expert guidance in making the determination for the fourth marking period, April 6, 2021, through the end of the school year.

After an extensive review of stakeholder input, physical and mental health information, and the academic needs of our students, we will be transitioning to a five/day per week learning environment for all students. **This will include a 4.5 hour in-person morning session, an optional take-home lunch, and remote access to support and enrichment in the afternoon.** Individual schedules will vary by student, grade, and content area. While changes will be kept to a minimum, some student schedules may change for 4th marking period. We will mail a copy of students' schedules to individual families, regardless if changes are made. Additionally, all families will receive bus information by mail. Please review both the time and bus stop for your child as they may have changed from the original assignment.

All families will continue to have the option of selecting the new learning environment or the all-remote learning environment; students currently placed in the ALL-REMOTE plan will remain in the all-remote plan **unless** families contact the school district to alter that schedule. Please note that this is a change from previous marking periods.

This change to our original learning plan will be addressed through an addendum to our Restart and Reopening plan and it supersedes previous documents. This addendum will be available on our website.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS: Students enrolled in this learning program will be required to wear masks and will follow social distancing protocols established at a minimum of 3 feet and observing 6 feet where possible. Desk shields will be utilized on student desks to provide a physical barrier between students. Some curricular restrictions may apply to limit the use of shared objects, to maximize social distancing when feasible, or to limit respiratory exposure. When possible, students will remain in cohorts and specific classrooms throughout the day, limiting travel in the hallway.

Additionally, students will be required to wear masks on busses and a portion of windows will remain open during transport as practical. Seats will be assigned to students, and when possible, families will be seated together. The ability for social distancing, however, will be limited on busses; it is encouraged that those able to provide transportation for their children consider doing so as personal circumstances allow. If you plan to transport your child instead, please contact Mrs. Medica in the transportation office at 224-4900, ext. 2120 so that we may make note of it.

The Greenwich Township School District must ensure the confidentiality of student and staff information, including such medical information as a positive COVID-19 diagnosis. This means some COVID-19 information is not communicated with the public and we cannot correct misinformation that has been circulated. Only those individuals identified as having close contact with a verified COVID+ individual will be notified to quarantine. **We fully expect that the new limits on social distancing under our amended learning plan may increase the number of possible contacts identified through contact tracing. Thus, more individual students or staff could be required to quarantine.** We are waiting for additional guidance regarding this topic from the CDC, Department of Health, and local authorities.

As we continue to follow CDC and Department of Health protocols, any student exhibiting one or more Covid-like symptoms, may be excluded from school for a period of time determined by the guidelines provided by the CDC and DOH and in conjunction with a case-by-case review by district staff. To that end, please assist our efforts to maintain a safe, healthy environment at school by keeping at home any student who exhibits any symptom identified on the daily health screener.

Please reach out to the appropriate school personnel for questions or concerns. Individual teachers can be reached through their email or via phone at their assigned school building at 224-4900. Members of our Child Study Team can be reached at their individual extensions or through the CST secretary, Mrs. Lavin, at x2160. School Nurses can be reached at: BSS Mrs. Pipczynski x1113, and NMS Mrs. Camp at x2137. Guidance counselors can be reached at: BSS Mrs. Podolski x1136, and NMS Mr. Giorgianni x 2135. Main Office extensions for each school are as follows: BSS x1131 and NMS x2140.

The Greenwich Township School District recognizes the concerns of parents and the difficult situation that the pandemic has forced upon our students, the community, and our employees. We appreciate your continued patience and support as we navigate this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jennifer Foley-Hindman