

April 13

Student and Teacher Expectations going into effect next Monday, April 20th

Consistent with the Governor's plan to continue learning through the end of the school year, GPPSS has been hard at work developing and refining a Continuity of Learning Plan. The district will submit that to Wayne RESA for approval this Wednesday after additional feedback from our teachers. As part of that process, GPPSS developed these Staff and Student Expectations.

Elementary Student and Teacher Expectations During Remote Learning April 20-June 12, 2020

The following document was developed collaboratively between GPPSS administrators and teachers in response to the Governor's order regarding COVID-19.

During this unprecedented time, the safety and health of our students, staff, and families continue to be our priority during the COVID-19 pandemic. GPPSS is here for you, and we will work through this together, one day at a time. The District understands the complexity of family dynamics when raising young children, and we take that into consideration as we develop a remote learning plan. With that being said, GPPSS is committed to providing learning opportunities that will support essential skills at differentiated levels. In short, a student-centered, flexible approach to learning with feedback is essential during this time. The intent of this document is to provide clarity for teachers and families regarding remote learning, academic expectations, and participation while providing flexibility to ensure success. Understanding family dynamics during this time, the majority of activities students engage in will continue to be asynchronous (not required to be logged in at a specific time).

During April 20 - June 12, 2020 all elementary students will:

- Receive learning opportunities from homeroom teachers, special teachers, and support programs.
- Complete assignments and activities provided by teachers
- Receive support from the teacher within the context of the remote learning environment
- Access district-approved digital content assigned by teacher (ie. Freckle Math, Imagine Math, Lexia, ConnectEd Math games, etc.) If a device or technical assistance is needed, parents may contact GPPSS by leaving a voicemail at 313-432-3131 or email parentconnect@gpschools.org

During April 20 - June 12, 2020 elementary staff will:

- Connect with students and families regarding their social, emotional and academic needs as appropriate and provide support.
- Collaborate with other teachers, grade level leaders, and administration to ensure that learning is focused on only the essential content/skills.
- Continue supporting learning by providing academic opportunities.
 - For new material, must include lesson explanation
 - Youtube, screencast, video conference time, how to document, etc.
- Strive to strike the proper balance between providing an appropriate amount of content (focusing on the essential content/skills) with the reality that our students are experiencing remote learning in an uncertain world.

- Work with support staff, and building administrators to develop a plan of support if a COVID-related hardship is identified.
- Contact your building administrator so that a communication plan can be developed in the event the teacher cannot partner with students remotely due to a teacher's personal or family health obligations.
- Progress monitor skills and student usage of district-approved (Freckle, Lexia, Imagine Math) digital content and connect with students/families that need support.
- Continue to follow IEP & Section 504 plan accommodations & supports in a reasonable and appropriate manner

GPPSS Elementary Grading Practices and Procedures - 2019-20 School Year Only:

During this period of remote learning necessitated by the outbreak of COVID-19, GPPSS will implement the following regarding the grading of assignments, reporting of grades and student promotion: Per the order from the Governor, a student's grade shall not be negatively impacted because of any hardship caused by COVID-19. If a student experiences hardship from COVID-19 (hardships could include, but are not limited to, a lack of internet access, health care concerns, family health situations, etc.) the student will work with teachers, administrators, or social workers to make accommodations for a student. All students will be placed in the next grade for the 2020-21 school year.

Given the current situation, teachers will focus on learning opportunities and feedback with differentiated participation. In short, a student-centered, flexible approach to providing descriptive feedback is essential during this time.

Traditional end of the year report cards will not be completed by the teacher. The report card from March 2020 will serve as the final report card placed in the CA-60. In June teachers will provide each student and family a brief summative report that highlights specific learning goals for the student to focus on this summer and in the fall. The summative report will be designed in the coming weeks.

In Conclusion:

During this time, we recognize that staff will not be able to replicate the great learning experiences that take place each day in our elementary GPPSS classrooms. Our efforts will be focused on encouraging safety through social distancing while providing manageable learning experiences to our students. Teachers will use their professional judgment to differentiate learning for students while focusing on their social and emotional needs. Building principals will communicate with students, families, and teachers to support remote learning.

Please remember, now more than ever, the importance of keeping things fun and enjoyable while empowering children's intrinsic beliefs to be life-long learners. Most importantly, don't forget the need for family time, playing board games, enjoying a bike ride, putting together a puzzle and having rich conversations with your children to enhance family relationships. If anything, this time will hopefully bring families closer together. Please know that we appreciate all our parents and staff are doing to support ongoing learning during this time.

GPPSS Secondary Teacher/Student Expectations During Remote Learning April 20 - June 12, 2020

The following document was developed collaboratively between GPPSS administrators and teachers in response to the Governor's order regarding COVID-19.

During this unprecedented time, the safety and health of our students, staff, and families continues to be our priority during the COVID-19 pandemic. GPPSS is here for you, and we will work through this together, one day at a time.

In short, a student-centered, flexible approach to learning and grading is key during this time. The intent of this document is to provide clarity for teachers and students regarding remote learning academic expectations and participation while providing flexibility to ensure success. The majority of activities students engage in will continue to be asynchronous (not requiring students to be logged in at a specific time).

During April 20 - June 12, 2020 all secondary students will:

- Utilize Schoology throughout the week for each of their classes.
- Complete assignments, activities and assessments provided by teachers.
- Reach out to teachers via Schoology or email if they have questions or concerns regarding assignments and/or content.
- Utilize and advocate for additional time or supports to complete an academic task if needed.

During April 20 - June 12, 2020 secondary teachers will:

- Collaborate with other teachers within course teams to determine and ensure that learning in these courses moving forward is only focused on the essential content/skills **remaining** in each course.
- Provide an appropriate amount of content (focusing only on the essential content/skills) while realizing our students are experiencing remote learning in an uncertain world.
- Give students the week's learning expectations (outline of activities) at the beginning of each week (**starting the week of April 20th**).
- Offer all students an opportunity to receive support and answers to questions via real-time virtual office hours at least 1x/week. For example, office hours could be a Google Hangout opportunity or even a Schoology discussion board that would allow for student feedback.
 - [Here is a quick video on how to use Discussion Boards for ongoing office hours](#)
 - [Here is a tutorial on how to use Discussion Boards](#)
- Follow IEP & Section 504 plan accommodations & supports in a reasonable and appropriate manner in conjunction with special education staff.
- Provide additional time or supports to complete academic tasks as needed. If a COVID-19 hardship is identified, the teacher will work with the counselor and building administrator to develop potential timelines for completion.
- Contact his or her administrator so that a plan can be developed in the event the teacher cannot partner with students remotely due to personal or family health obligations.

GPPSS Secondary Grading Practices and Procedures Second Semester 2019-20 School Year Only

During this period of remote learning necessitated by the outbreak of COVID-19, GPPSS will implement the following regarding the grading of assignments, reporting of semester grades, student promotion and/or graduation.

Per the order from the Governor, a student's grade shall not be negatively impacted because of a hardship caused by COVID-19. If a student experiences a hardship from COVID-19 (hardships could include, but are not limited to, a lack of internet access, health care concerns, family health situations, etc.), the student will work with teachers and counselors to make accommodations for a student. A teacher is able to award a student an overall grade of 'passing' in a course if a COVID-19 hardship is identified. Once a COVID-19 hardship is identified, a building administrator may award a grade of 'passing' to a student for a second semester course after consulting with the teacher and/or counselor.

Given the current situation, teachers will provide students opportunities to reassess and demonstrate mastery in alternate methods. In short, a student-centered, flexible approach to grading is key during this time.

Computing Semester Grades for Students Enrolled in High School Courses and Middle School Courses:

- Final exams for this semester will be cancelled.
- All high school courses will be weighted with 100% of the grade computed by the semester's work. For this semester, quarters will not be used.
- Middle School course grades will be computed by the semester's work.
- When computing the grade determined by coursework, the teacher has the flexibility and latitude to adjust expectations for students to account for the differences inherent in remote learning. When adjusting expectations, teachers should only reduce expectations, not increase them for students.
- Final letter grades using the standard grading scale and the A - E system will be provided to each student. Upon receipt of the final grade, a student may elect to maintain the assigned letter grade or receive a 'pass' grade for any course that the student receives an A - D- in. Students may elect to receive letter grades in some courses while electing a passing grade in others.

District processes including the review and appeal of grades continue to be unchanged.

Grading is a complicated process that given the reality of this school year is even more so. Consequently, building administrators, working collaboratively with the teacher, the student's counselor, and Director of Secondary Instruction, shall have the latitude to adjust and revise the above on a student-by-student basis as needed to be consistent with the Governor's order.

Virtual Board meeting tonight due to Stay Home Order

GPPSS Board of Education will again be [meeting virtually this evening at 7 p.m.](#) You can watch via [livestream](#) tonight or catch the meeting afterwards when it airs twice daily for the week on Channel 20. Here is a quick description of the process for public comments during these COVID restrictions:

- If you would like to make a public comment, please fill out the following digital form below. **The form will be open to the public at 6:45 PM on Monday, April 13th.**
- In order to have your comment read at the meeting, you must include your name, phone number, home address, and the topic you wish to discuss.
- On the form, you will first be asked if your comment pertains to an action item or non-action item related to the Board Meeting.
- Once you have selected either action item or non-action item, you will be directed to a section that will enable you to type your comments to the Board.
- Please make sure to hit submit once you are finished.

[Click Here to Leave A Comment For The Board](#)

(This link will become active at 6:45 pm on 4/13)

First day of school this fall

While GPPSS is still waiting for guidance from the state and federal government about end of year celebrations, we do know that the first day of the 2020-21 school year for students is scheduled to be the Tuesday after Labor Day, September 8th.

Elementary Music

Our GPPSS Elementary Music Team has created a whole month of musical activities you can enjoy as a family.

Census 2020 is going on now - have you been counted?

Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce is once again leading the way in census education. Please take a moment to fill out your census questionnaire by phone, mail or online. If you have questions, contact the Chamber at 313-881-4722.

GPPSS latest donations to local heroes

Last week the district distributed the items below to Beaumont, St. Johns and Hospice of Michigan:

20,000 (10,000) pair of examination gloves

700 goggles

100 Safety Glasses

100 Surgical Masks

20 N95 Masks

10 Face Shields

240 Containers of Clorox Wipes

66 Containers of Health Care Hydrogen Peroxide Wipes

168 Containers of Purell Hand Sanitizer

18 Containers of Hand Wipes

Kindergarten registration deadline is May 1

GPPSS has revised its enrollment process to delay residency verification, but the deadlines for the online pre-enrollment still stand. **Kindergarten** families must pre-register online by **May 1** to ensure placement in their 2020 neighborhood school.

Food Tuesdays 10-1 at Poupard

As a reminder, food service was reduced to a weekly pick-up on Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Poupard Elementary School, 20655 Lennon. This was done to minimize exposure for all concerned yet still keep our students fed. Please bring a box, bag or wagon to take home a week's supply of breakfast and lunch. Enter the front doors facing Lennon to help us maintain safe social distancing. Thank you!

Free & Low Cost Internet Options for GPPSS Families

EveryoneOn.org (Click Here)

EveryoneOn is a national nonprofit that creates social and economic opportunities by connecting everyone to the internet. Since 2012, EveryoneOn has facilitated access to affordable technology solutions--in-home internet service, desktops and laptops--and free digital literacy training through their [offer locator tool](#), cross-sector partnerships, and local programming efforts. Please note, while normally our recommended first stop in learning about available options and offerings, they are currently unable to maintain their search for offers listings based on changing Internet Service Providers' (ISPs) offers during this time period. **They suggest visiting <http://bit.ly/digcltisp>, which houses links to offers by various ISPs.**

Some known local area ISPs and their most recent offers as well as information about Lifeline are listed below.

AT&T (Click Here) or call: 855-220-5211

- Offering **two months of free service to new Access customers** who order by April 30, 2020. \$5/mo or \$10/mo (plus taxes) thereafter, depending on your speed.
- Expanding eligibility based on income and to households participating in National School Lunch Program/Head Start
- Waiving all home internet data overage fees
- No term commitment
- No deposit
- No installation fee
- In-home Wi-Fi modem included

Comcast (Click Here) or call: 855-8-INTERNET (1-855-846-8376)

Comcast has recently increased the speeds of its **Internet Essentials** home internet service from 15/2 Mbps to 25/3 Mbps. Additionally, **eligible households who enroll now will be provided with free service for their first 60 days**. More information can be viewed at <https://corporate.comcast.com/press/releases/internet-essentials-low-income-broadband-coronavirus-pandemic>. As a reminder, Internet Essentials provides a \$9.95 per month home internet service exclusively to low-income households.

Comcast is also making its **Xfinity Wi-Fi hotspots free for anyone to use**. Millions of the hotspots are scattered throughout the country; you can find hotspot locations at wifi.xfinity.com.

Lifeline (Click Here)

Lifeline is a **federal benefit that lowers the monthly cost of phone or internet service**. Lifeline typically provides up to a \$9.25 monthly discount on service for eligible low-income subscribers. Subscribers may receive a Lifeline discount on either a wireline or a wireless service, but they may not receive a discount on both services at the same time. Lifeline also supports broadband Internet access service and broadband-voice bundles. **To apply for Lifeline, a consumer must use the National Verifier application system at: <https://nationalverifier.service-now.com/lifeline>**. Once the National Verifier has confirmed your eligibility to receive Lifeline service, you may then select a service provider.

Sprint (Click Here) or call: 877-878-9359

And T-Mobile

Sprint and T-Mobile are supporting current customers by:

Providing Unlimited data for 60 days to customers with metered data plans (effective 3/18)

Giving 20 GB of free mobile hotspot to customers with hotspot-capable devices (effective 3/18)

Waiving per-minute toll charges for international long-distance calls from the U.S. to CDC- defined Level 3 countries (effective 3/17)

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