

GPPSS Return to School Task Force Summary Presentation

July 13, 2020

Due to the extended school closure mandated by the state of Michigan due to COVID 19, a district task force, comprised of GPPSS staff, was formed to thoughtfully plan for a safe and effective "return to school" in fall 2020.

The GPPSS Return to School Task Force will provide recommendations that will be reviewed by the community and implemented as needed in August 2020.

GPPSS Return to School Task Force Membership

Safety

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- © Nicole Pilgrim (co-chair)
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- © Adrienne Nash, MAS
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Structure

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Learning

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We understand that:

- COVID-19 has created a high degree of uncertainty and anxiety.
- On an almost daily basis we learn new information about COVID-19 that will inform our actions.
- Some of the information we learn may counter a previously held belief.
- Many decisions, including some of the most fundamental decisions regarding school structure and safety, will be made for GPPSS by governmental agencies.
- GPPSS will need to be prepared to serve our students in September 2020.

As a task force we commit to:

- the best solutions, as we offer sustained and equitable access to effective instruction with the least threat to the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff.
- promoting and ensuring principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion where we acknowledge the collective and individual talents, skills, and perspectives of others will foster a culture of belonging.
- providing equitable access to learning resources, digital platforms, and technology to ensure that all students are able to access educational opportunities.
- intentional protocols to ensure student and staff safety.
- appropriately implementing our GPPSS curriculum, utilizing researched based best practices to provide effective and equitable access for all.
- prioritizing the social emotional well being of staff and students by engaging in reflective dialogue with stakeholders.

As a task force we commit to (continued):

- supporting trauma informed interventions and providing embedded social emotional learning for all students.
- thoughtful decision making practices, while moving forward with a purposeful sense of urgency.
- given the financial forecast and projections for school funding, the fiscal impact of solutions must be one of many considerations, solutions must meet MDE requirements necessary to receive full state aid.
- prioritizing instruction for our K-12 students and our students with IEPs from birth to age 26.
- focus our instructional efforts and resources on core content, special education and required legal obligations if time is a constraint.
- recognize that some content or courses may be more or less feasible in a less than face to face environment.

GPPSS Commitments:

- GPPSS will continue to provide technology resources to students as needed to ensure equitable access.
- GPPSS will continue to provide food service to eligible students.
- Students with unique needs, including our students with IEP's and 504's, will require individualized programming that may differ from the programming provided to other students.
- GPPSS will provide appropriate social-emotional learning opportunities to all students.

Task Force Work Structure:

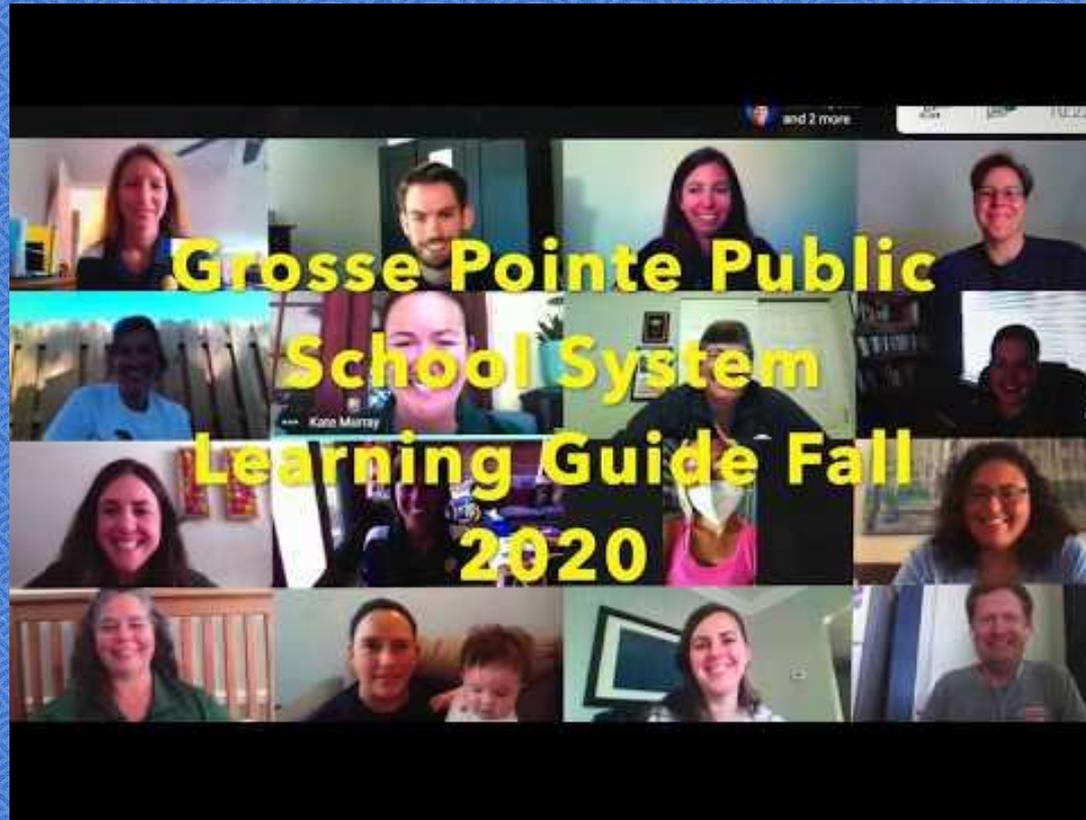
- Members joined the Learning, Safety or Structure Subcommittee
- Subcommittees met often, reviewed guidance and best practice documents and created recommendations
- The Task Force Steering Committee reviewed subcommittee work and created this document

The information contained in this presentation is in draft format. Changes will be made to this document based on the following:

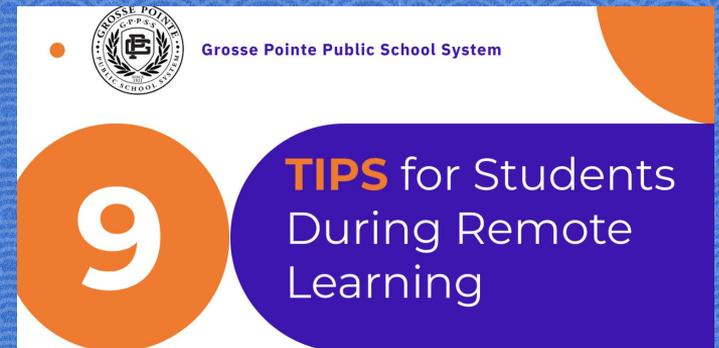
- new guidance and information from MDE and health agencies.
- feedback from our staff and community

A specific community and staff feedback protocol will be developed to allow for stakeholder input during July.

Learning Committee

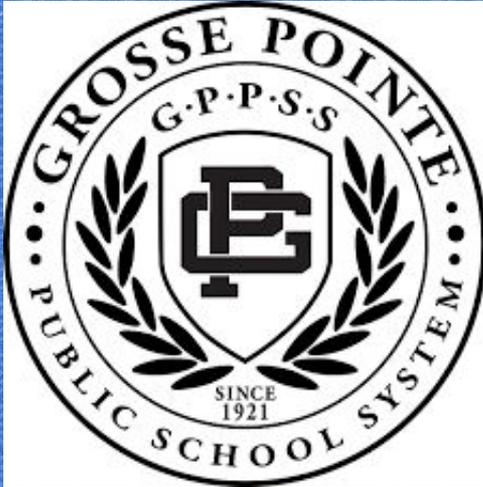


Learning Committee



Safety and Structure Committees

The safety and well-being of our stakeholders is our priority!



- In alignment with the governor's plan, GPPSS will implement all **required** components, as outlined in the [MI Safe Schools: Michigan's 2020-2021 Return to School Roadmap](#)
- All strongly recommended and recommended components will be followed to the best of our ability while fulfilling the district's commitment to **sustained** and **equitable access** to instruction

GPPSS will continue to evaluate the 'strongly recommended' or 'recommended' protocols to minimize the risk of exposure to COVID-19. In Phase 5, the district will review and adjust guidelines as needed. Click district logo for GPPSS Safety and Structure Plan.

Given the unique needs and interests of our students, GPPSS will offer two primary learning structures for students in grades K-12 for the 2020-21 school year:

- OneGP Virtual: a year long, 100% virtual learning environment
- GPPSS Traditional - a model that operates within the confines of MDE guidance while mirroring a traditional GPPSS delivery model as much as possible.

GPPSS Traditional:

The goal of GPPSS Traditional is to offer safe, high quality instruction to all students in as traditional a format as allowed by the government's current phase guidance. We will be prepared to pivot between three scenarios:

- 100% Remote Learning for All
 - Phases 1 - 3
- In-Person Learning
 - Phases 4-5 with Increased Safety Precautions
 - Phase 6- Post Pandemic
- Hybrid Learning - Phase 4

GPPSS Traditional

Consistent Components in All GPPSS Traditional Delivery Models:

- Schoology: courses will have a Schoology component with consistent course design
- Courses will focus on creating an environment of belonging for every student
- Courses will use instructional best practices relevant to the delivery model as identified by the Learning Committee.
- Teachers will have a plan to allow the course to pivot between 100% remote, hybrid learning and in-person learning.

GPPSS Traditional

100% Remote - Phases 1 - 3

- Students do not attend any GPPSS facility - all learning 100% remote.
- Students interact with their classmates and teacher remotely using Schoology.
- Instruction contains both synchronous and asynchronous elements.
- Courses would follow the GP Learning Guide regarding course work load, interaction guidelines, etc.
- Courses would be taught by GPPSS teachers using GPPSS content.
- Some traditional courses may not be available in this format depending on course content.
- Teachers and students would be prepared to pivot from this delivery model to the in-person or hybrid delivery models.

GPPSS Traditional In-Person Phase 4 - 5 - Overview

In-Person Learning will attempt to as closely as possible mirror traditional GPPSS delivery practices.

Specific In-Person Components:

- All students in Grades 5 - 12 will wear masks at all times except when eating or drinking
- All staff will wear masks and/or face shields at all times except when eating or drinking
- All students in elementary buildings will wear face masks when in common areas
- Large groups of students (over 50) will be prohibited
- Gatherings of more than one class are not permitted
- Students in grades K - 12 will eat lunch in classrooms or other spaces.
- High school campuses will be closed for student lunch to minimize student gatherings
- Outdoor locations will be used when possible for lunch, PE, class activities, etc.
- Larger spaces will be used to the maximum extent possible when available

GPPSS Traditional In-Person Phase 4 - 5 - Overview (continued)

Specific In-Person Components:

- Classrooms will remove furniture to maximize social distancing opportunities to the extent possible
- Student furniture will be oriented to face the front of the classroom
- At the elementary level, when possible the students will stay in their 'home' classroom and teachers will rotate between classrooms
- PPE will be provided to staff as needed
- Visitors and volunteers in school buildings will be prohibited except when dropping off or picking up students in the main office
- All out of school field trips will be suspended, virtual field trips encouraged
- All health department guidelines regarding quarantining students and staff that test positive for COVID-19 or are exposed to COVID-19 will be followed
- A daily student home health check protocol will be provided to parents prior to school starting
- Athletics will be permitted as deemed safe by GPPSS and/or the MHSAA
- Attendance policies will be updated for both students and staff as needed
- Fee based preschool and Kids Club would be offered as regulations and space allows
- Limit the need for substitute teachers by restricting during the day professional development and student testing
- Create additional 'building substitute' positions so that consistent staffing can be maintained

GPPSS Traditional Hybrid Phase 4 - Overview

Instructional delivery methods, staff support and student opportunities identified for In-Person learning would be similar in a Hybrid learning model except as noted below.

Specific Differences from In-Person Learning Phase 4 - 6:

- Students will continue to be in 'traditional' GPPSS courses, however, in the hybrid model most students will only attend school twice per week allowing for smaller student groups
- Students will engage with their classmates and teacher using Schoology on days when not attending school in-person
- Students in special education categorical classrooms (birth to age 26) could attend school five days per week in some cases
- GPPSS staff and essential workers would receive preferential placement in fee-based preschool and kid's club programming to allow for instruction to continue for GPPSS students
- Kid's club programming would not be offered for non-staff
- All extracurricular and athletic activity would be shifted to a virtual environment or cancelled

OneGP Virtual

OneGP Virtual Overview:

- 100% virtual using technology as the platform for students to learn and interact with teachers and other students
- Open enrollment for GPPSS students only
- Staffed by GPPSS teachers
- Available for students in grades K - 12
- OneGP Virtual students will partner with other OneGP Virtual students beyond just the students from their typical neighborhood school
- OneGP Virtual students will be eligible for athletic and extracurricular activities in their neighborhood school as offered
- Once electing OneGP Virtual, a student must attend OneGP Virtual for the entire 2020-21 school year
- Enrollment in OneGP Virtual will be in early August

OneGP Virtual

OneGP Virtual Overview (continued):

- Students in OneGP Virtual will receive instruction and content in a 100% online format
- Students in OneGP Virtual will interact online with GPPSS teachers
- Students taking OneGP Virtual high school classes will earn high school credit.

More information regarding OneGP Virtual will be provided to the community later in July prior to OneGP Virtual open enrollment in early August 2020.

Stakeholder Feedback Needed:

This document is currently in draft form. It will certainly change based on additional information from MDE, WRESA and our local health department. Additionally, this document may change based on feedback from the community, staff and our students.

The following protocol will be used to gather stakeholder feedback:

- This presentation will be posted on the website and emailed to staff
- A version of this presentation will be provided to the BOE at the July 27th BOE meeting
- Links to the GPPSS Learning Guide, Safety Committee Summary Document and the Structure Committee Documents will be provided as those documents are finalized
- A Google Form will be used that will allow stakeholders to provide feedback

These documents will continue to be updated as the summer continues.