



March 27

Thank you

Feedback from families has been overwhelmingly positive. Students continue to learn through a variety of formats, and families and staff are sharing more comfort with their new normal. Thank you all for partnering with us. We especially thank you for helping students find a healthy balance. Staff will continue to reach out to students as we all remain focused on what's best for kids.

Special Education

GPPSS special education staff will continue to provide instruction and support in every way possible during this time. Our students with IEP's are being provided access to the curriculum, focused on deficit areas identified by their IEP's, accommodations, and reasonable and appropriate communication and collaborative efforts by their teachers. We will assess the next level of support, and ongoing student individual needs as we move to April 13, 2020. Take care and stay healthy.

Stefanie Hayes, Sue Lucchese, Lillie Loder, and Lisa Dougherty
Special Education Administration

Food Tuesdays 10-1 at Poupard

As a reminder, food service is being reduced to a weekly pick-up on Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Poupard Elementary School, 20655 Lennon. This is being 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.

Playgrounds closed for safety

All of the city and GPPSS playgrounds are closed. The coronavirus can live on the equipment for days. Our buildings and grounds staff are *staying safe, staying home* so they cannot sanitize between families. Please keep your family safe. Other options: take a walk, ride a bike, play catch in your yard, play music or just come outside on your porch each night at 6 p.m. to socialize safely with neighbors.

A sense of community

GPPSS donated safety goggles, gloves and masks from our middle school science departments to Henry Ford Health System. Parcels teacher Chris Geerer made that connection. And shortly after that, our special education and buildings & grounds departments made a second donation of face shields, masks, gowns and gloves to St. John Ascension. This is a wonderful community blessed with top notch health systems. We are grateful to be able to share in order to help keep the front lines safe. You can see a photo of some of the donated goods on our Twitter @GPSchools and Facebook @GPPSS accounts.

What if I missed the District newsletter *Partners in Learning*?

Twice a year GPPSS distributes its [Partners in Learning newsletter](#) to every home within the district as an insert in the Grosse Pointe News. Inside the spring issue is a pull-out guide highlighting bond activities to date. Please disregard the Gold Card Calendar as it was sent to the publisher before COVID. A link is posted on the [district website under Headlines](#) if you missed the print newsletter.

GPFPE and GPPSS on WJR

The Grosse Pointe Foundation for Public Education and GPPSS were featured March 25th on The Children's Foundation's monthly radio show [#CaringForKids!](#) Listen to the interview now at: <http://wjr.com/kids>. Thank you to Robert Bury, President of the GPFPE, and Keith Howell, GPPSS Director of Pre-K-Elementary Instruction, for sharing our story. Mr. Howell stressed how important soft skills are to "support and build resiliency in kids." The GPFPE has supported implementation of the character-building program *Leader in Me* at every one of our elementary schools. In these times, it may be helpful to connect virtually with an elementary student you know and ask them about the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People:

- Be Proactive
- Begin With the End in Mind
- Put First Things First
- Think Win-Win
- Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood
- Synergize
- Sharpen the Saw

Best Practices from the [CDC: Keeping the home safe](#)

All households

- Clean hands at the door and at regular intervals
- Create habits and reminders to avoid touching their face and cover coughs and sneezes
- Disinfect surfaces like doorknobs, tables, and handrails regularly
- Increase ventilation by opening windows or adjusting air conditioning

Households with vulnerable seniors or those with significant underlying conditions

(Significant underlying conditions include heart, lung, kidney disease; diabetes; and conditions that suppress the immune system)

- Have the healthy people in the household conduct themselves as if they were a significant risk to the person with underlying conditions. For example, wash hands frequently before interacting with the person, such as by feeding or caring for the person
- If possible, provide a protected space for vulnerable household members
- Ensure all utensils and surfaces are cleaned regularly

Households with sick family members

- Give sick members their own room if possible, and keep the door closed
- Have only one family member care for them
- Consider providing additional protections or more intensive care for household members over 65 years old or with underlying conditions