



**Monday, March 16 at 4 p.m.**

We are living in uncharted times with decisions being made minute by minute, day by day and week by week. We continue to wait for answers from the Governor, Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Department of Health and Wayne County Health Department. PLEASE be safe and stay healthy following the Coronavirus precautions. One day at a time! We will get through this together!

Sincerely,  
Gary C. Niehaus  
Superintendent

### **UPDATES WE HAVE AT THIS TIME TO THE FAQ**

#### **What if I haven't heard from my child's teacher?**

Please know we are working as fast as we can to provide various methods of instruction that are appropriate for all our students. That said, have your **secondary student check Schoology and their district email address**. Communication is coming from teacher to student at the secondary level. One easy step: please ensure that all students have their notifications turned on for Schoology as everything will be housed there. For younger students, **email the teacher** directly. Every GPPSS employee uses the same email formula: first 6 letters of last name + first initial @gpschools.org (example: [fannonr@gpschools.org](mailto:fannonr@gpschools.org)).

#### **How do I find my Child's Log-In?**

To get your student's log-in, go to MiStar Parent Portal. Once you click on your child's profile, you can find their log-in info. Their student ID and login will be right at the top under Student LogIn Information. If you cannot remember your parent log-in, here is the link to [Parent Portal Password Help](#).

#### **How do I access online library resources?**

This video focuses on accessing our online library resources from home.  
<https://youtu.be/ra1uwddkPh8>. You can access library resources 24/7:

Elementary: [bit.ly/ElemLibGPPSS](http://bit.ly/ElemLibGPPSS)

Middle & High School: [bit.ly/SecLibGPPSS](http://bit.ly/SecLibGPPSS)

Library card numbers (required for access to GPPL tools like Hoopla and BookFlix) will be available to elementary families and secondary students by emailings building library media specialists or [PataA@gpschools.org](mailto:PataA@gpschools.org).

#### **Can I still buy a device with the discount?**

Yes! Here is the link to the site offering [discounts on devices](#) we know work well with our BYOD initiative. <https://www.buysehi.com/category/1615/Grosse-Pointe-PSS-Parent-Staff-Portal.html>

#### **I missed the Tech Pick-Up Dates - will there be another?**

GPPSS is working to minimize exposure while helping families obtain technology for e-learning options. At this time, one more Tech Pick-up is scheduled for **Thursday, March 19 from 4-7 p.m. at the**

**Administration Building**, 389 St. Clair, Grosse Pointe City in the Board Room. Bring the signed [acceptable use contract](#) or be prepared to have a parent and student sign when you arrive.

**What if my student left their hat, coat, ...?**

GPPSS is working hard to minimize exposure and get our buildings disinfected. As such, school buildings will be closed to all students and teachers as of 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 17. School buildings will be shut down Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, March 18-20, for deep cleaning. Email your building principal if you absolutely cannot obtain belongings before Tuesday 3/17 at 3 p.m.

**Spring break and summer?**

There is still no word. We promise we will let you know as soon as we do. Breaks will all depend upon a number of factors: CDC guidance, total days out, if online instruction counts for hours/days of instruction without the normal seat-time waiver from the Michigan Department of Education, etc. In the meantime, we all remain focused on keeping students learning.

**What about field trips?**

Field trips and overnight trips have been cancelled through the end of the school year. This is being done in order to receive any allowable refunds. Many deadlines for cancellation are fast approaching. Individual teachers/administrators will contact you about refunds.

**What are our representatives doing?**

Both the House and Senate will return to Lansing for session on Tuesday 3/17 to address supplemental budgets and any other efforts that may be needed to deal with the COVID-19 outbreak. We've been told that there is no plan to suspend legislative sessions indefinitely, but that sessions will continue more on an as-needed basis. One thing we are pushing to have solved on Tuesday is the question of days/hours forgiveness related to a mandated suspension of all student instruction. We do not have details on what this will look like, but will share what we learn as soon as possible.

**What mental health resources are available to help families deal with stress or anxiety as we navigate COVID-19?**

The GPPSS psychologists and school social workers put together some [links that may be helpful to families during the time off from school](#). Here is an excellent article developed by mental health professionals on [how to discuss COVID-19](#) with your child.