

Gobles Public Schools Return to School Plan and Parent Guidance Document

2020-2021





This document is to serve as a quick reference guide for parents in support of the start of our 2020-2021 school year.

Overview

What Parents Should Know



Gobles Public Schools has created a learning plan that is fluid and will allow for transitions between Phases 1 through 6 in an efficient and seamless manner.

Goals for Returning to School



- Create safe and quality virtual, in-person, and remote learning environments for students and staff.
- Provide families with options to support their comfort level regarding returning to school.
- Support students to keep them as closely aligned in learning among the three options.
- Put into place a system that will support a smooth transition between the three options.

Choice



In Phases 1 through 6, parents will have the option of choosing the Gobles K-12 Virtual Academy.

In Phases 1 through 3, schools will be required to close for remote learning.

In Phases 4 through 6, schools will be allowed to provide in-person learning.

Technology



- All students K-12, will be given a Chromebook and will need to bring their chromebook and charger to school every day.
- Students need to make sure their chromebooks are charged every day.
- For the Gobles Virtual Academy option, Edgenuity is the platform that will be used as the delivery system for curriculum.
- For remote learning and in-person instruction, Google Classroom is the platform that all teachers will be using as their delivery system.
- We will work with individual families to support those that don't have internet.
- Instruction will be provided for staff, parents, and students on the Google Classroom platform.

Gobles K-12 Virtual Academy Learning

- Remain a Gobles student
- Personal contact and communication with a Gobles mentor 1-2 times each week
- Personal contact with a teacher of record a minimum of 1-2 times per week
- Four core classes and two electives per semester (K-5)
- Scheduling of up to 6 classes with a Gobles counselor (6-12)

Remote Learning

- School hours for 2020-2021:
Monday-Friday
8:45-3:10 (K-5th grade)
7:30-2:00 (6th-12th grade)
- Personal contact and communication with teacher daily
- Wellness checks between teacher and student 1-2 times per week
- Parents can communicate with teachers as needed via email
- Students are required to meet daily attendance guidelines
- Expectation to view live-streamed or recorded lessons and complete assignments on Google Classroom
- Students must demonstrate mastery of essential skills in order to receive a passing grade

In-Person Learning

- School hours for 2020-2021:
Monday-Friday
8:45-3:10 (K-5th grade)
7:30-2:00 (6th-12th grade)
- K-5 classroom cohort grouping
- K-12 facial coverings required in common spaces
- 6-12 facial coverings required at all times
- Social distancing of 6 feet apart in classrooms
- Breakfast and lunch within classrooms



Virtual Learning “Must Knows”

- Reliable internet access is needed for students and families to select this model. Families without reliable internet access are urged to select in-person learning.
- If considering virtual learning, but unsure about internet reliability, parents should contact the Gobles Virtual Academy Coordinator directly to discuss options.
- All classes will be offered through the Edgenuity Learning Management System.
- All students will be mentored by a Gobles Certified Teacher.
- Instruction will be provided for parents on how to use Edgenuity.
- A strong, independent student, with a supportive family is needed for virtual learning to be successful.
- Virtual learning will be limited and cannot mirror the full curriculum and educational experience of in-person instruction.
- Minimum of one semester commitment



Health and Safety Protocols

As we plan to return safely to face to face instruction, parents will be required to assist the district by effectively communicating and adhering to the following practices:

- Staff and students will complete a screening protocol daily before attending school.
- Parents will keep students home from school if exhibiting any symptoms or if there is suspected exposure to COVID-19. Symptoms include: fever of 100.4 or above, shortness of breath, chills, dry cough, difficulty breathing, acute loss of taste or smell, digestive symptoms such as diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal pain, or painful blisters on toes.
- Parents are encouraged to provide a facial covering for students. The school will provide one cloth facial covering per student for the school year. Cloth facial coverings must be washed at home daily. Disposable facial coverings must be replaced daily.
- Facial coverings are required for all staff and students in grades 6-12 at all times and for K-5 students in common spaces and when they leave their desk in their classroom, unless a medical waiver is provided.



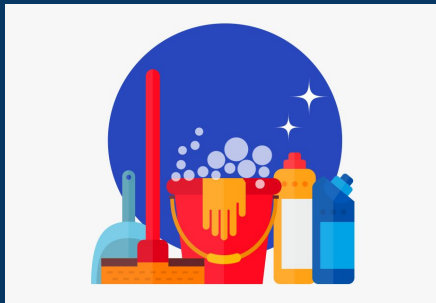
Health and Safety Protocols (cont.)

As we plan to return safely to face to face instruction, parents will be required to assist the district by effectively communicating and adhering to the following practices:

- Facial coverings for ALL students is a requirement while riding the bus.
- 6 foot social distancing rules will be adhered to in classrooms and encouraged in common areas.
- Signage regarding washing hands, social distancing, and wearing masks will be posted in all classrooms and throughout the buildings.
- Access to buildings will be limited. Visitors will be permitted under circumstances that support student well-being and as deemed necessary by the building principal.
- The district is mandated to work closely with the Van Buren and Allegan County Health Department. The Health Department has final authority in handling any situation regarding staff or student illness.

Enhanced Cleaning Protocols

Safe and effective cleaning procedures scheduled throughout the day



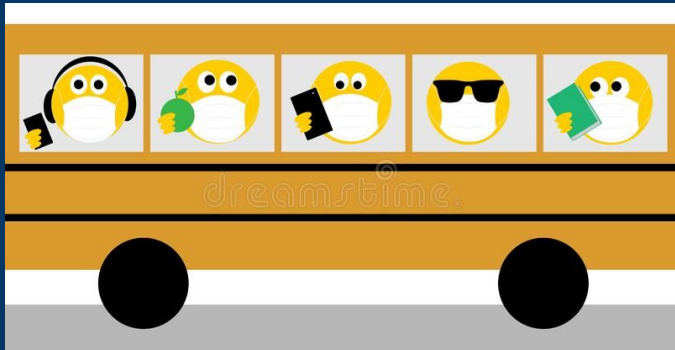
- Deep cleaning in buildings and classrooms nightly.
- K-5 classrooms will be sanitized periodically throughout the day.
- 6-12 classrooms will be sanitized between each class period.
- Buses before and after student transport.
- Signage and instruction of proper hand washing will be posted.
- Hand sanitizer station in every classroom and throughout hallways.

Food Services



- All K-5 students will receive free breakfast and lunch.
- Students attending in-person instruction will eat breakfast and lunch in their classrooms.
- Students not attending in-person learning will be provided with an opportunity to pick up breakfast and lunch for the week on Tuesdays and Fridays at the school.

Transportation



- Facial masks must be worn by all bus staff and riders, unless a medical waiver is provided.
- Social distancing will be utilized to the extent practicable.
- Students will be seated one seat apart unless seated with household members.

Changes to Our School Environment



- Physical changes will be made in classrooms to promote social distancing.
- Large spaces throughout the buildings will be available for teachers to utilize.
- Band and physical education classes will be held outside whenever possible.
- No external field trips until further notice
- Outdoor learning is permitted

Athletics and Extracurricular Activities



Athletics will strictly follow the MHSAA guidelines for participation and competition.

Extracurricular activities will align with MHSAA guidelines for participation and competition.



Additional Information

- For Gobles Virtual Academy students, the Gobles Virtual Academy Coordinator will be contacting students prior to the start of school, August 31, 2020.
- For Gobles In-Person students, Gobles Teachers will be contacting students prior to the start of school, August 31, 2020.
- For Gobles Bus Transportation students, Gobles Transportation Staff will be contacting students prior to the start of school, August 31, 2020.