

GMRSD 2020-21 SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN

REOPENING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Dr. Tim Frederiks, Interim Superintendent	Michael Mai- Principal (Superintendent as of 8/1)	Izzy Marmolejos- Principal	Angela Moyer- Interim Business Administrator	Dave White-Dir. of Buildings and Grounds
Courtney Wenthen- GMRSD BOE	Doug Smith- GMRSD BOE	Joe Carroll- Teacher/ GMREA President	Colleen Schubert- Teacher/Central Rep	Casey Pach- Teacher/GMMS Rep
Eileen Romagnoli- Teacher / Central Rep	Nancy Padula- CST	Marlene Saraiva-CST	Dottie Buel-CST	Taylor Abruzzese- Central Nurse
Cheryl Wilson- GMMS Nurse	Lauren Ackerman- Counselor	Meghan Mihail- Counselor	Elyssa Loiacono - Parent	Beth Schmidt - Parent
Jeffrey Rosequist- Teacher/GMMS Rep				

*Two preliminary meetings were held in June. Planning meetings were held July 6, 13, 20, 23, and 27, 2020, resulting in the following Reopening Plan for Great Meadows Regional School District.

Summary:

In our proposed hybrid model, to start the year, all students will go to school two half days a week and spend the other days / times learning from home. Half of each class, called “Blue Group,” will attend school Mondays and Tuesdays for half a day. “Green Group” will go to school Wednesdays and Thursdays for half a day. All students will be home Friday for remote learning. Students with IEPs and 504 Plans will have the option to attend all four days.

Groups will be split alphabetically and siblings will remain together.

Cohorts will be maintained to the greatest extent possible.

Students will be onsite at no more than 50% capacity on any given day.

Special Education students will participate to the fullest extent possible in the least restrictive environment and per their individualized education plans (IEPs).

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A. **Critical Area of Operation #1 - General Health and Safety Guidelines**

- All persons (staff and students) in the building are required to wear a face covering at all times, with the following exceptions:
 - Mask breaks will be built into the daily schedule.
 - When seated for instruction, students' face coverings may be removed if safe distancing is observed.
- All persons entering the building will have a temperature check and complete a daily health screening via Google survey or through our RealTime parent portal.
- Established liaisons to County Department of Health – building nurses
- No guests or meetings during the school day. All meetings will remain virtual.
- All field trips are suspended until further notice.
- Signage and floor decals will be utilized to remind people to maintain social distancing and stay to specific sides of the hallways.
- Monitored restroom entry for students (custodians and paraprofessionals). Limited facilities open for use.
- Water fountains closed. Bottle fillers provided.
- Respectful quarantine of anyone who is symptomatic or has a temperature of 100.4 or higher.
- Staff may not travel to a restricted-travel state while school is in session.
- Students traveling to a restricted-travel state must quarantine for the required period and may not attend in-person school during that time.
- If Pennsylvania becomes a restricted-travel state, GMRSD will consider moving to full virtual until the restriction is lifted.
- If we do not have sufficient staff supervisory coverage on any given day GMRSD will move to a fully virtual day.
- Pre-service teaching candidates may be used to fill in where appropriate and as certification allows.

B. **Critical Area of Operation #2 - Classrooms, Testing, and Therapy Rooms**

- ❖ **Social Distancing in Instructional and Non-instructional Rooms**
 - Desks will face one direction and be safely distanced based on DOH guidelines
 - Daily instructional schedule will accommodate a reduced student population for in-person instruction. The remainder of students will either a) learn at home and meet with teachers in the PM or b) be part of a fully remote cohort.
 - If in-person testing and/or related services are needed, they will take place in locations conducive to social distancing, such as large classrooms, the auditorium, gymnasium, or cafeteria. Some related services will be conducted remotely based on scheduling after discussion with parent/guardian.
 - Shared workspaces and materials will be sanitized/cleaned at the conclusion of each classroom session. Manual detailing schedules and materials used will be published on District webpage prior to the start of the school year.
 - Teachers will rotate between classes to minimize student travel in hallways.
 - Outdoor learning will be encouraged, if appropriate.
- ❖ **Procedures for Hand Sanitizing/Washing**

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- Students and staff will use CDC/DOH-approved hand sanitizer before entering classroom (provided by district).
- Students and staff will sanitize hands BEFORE using restroom and wash hands after.
- Students must wash hands upon returning to classroom from elsewhere in the building.
- When meals are permitted, all hands must be washed before and after meals.

C. Critical Area of Operation #3 - Transportation

- ❖ Student Transportation
 - The district will work with First Student to adhere to state and federal guidelines for student transportation.
 - Nurses or paraprofessionals will take student temperatures on bus.
 - If a student presents with a fever of 100.4 or greater, he/she will be returned to a parent/guardian at the bus stop. If a parent/guardian is not present, student will be respectfully quarantined on the bus and upon arrival to the school campus until they can be picked up.
- ❖ Social Distancing on School Buses
 - Face coverings will be required on buses when social distancing is not possible
 - Paraprofessionals will be utilized to assist with distancing and face coverings on all routes.

D. Critical Area of Operation #4 - Student Flow, Entry, Exit, and Common Areas

- ❖ Location of Student and Staff Screening
 - Students not on buses will be screened in main lobby and/or vestibule
 - Staff may certify that they are fever free and healthy for work via daily survey or by visiting school nurse
- ❖ Social Distancing in Entrances, Exits, and Common Areas
 - Buses will be dismissed one at a time.
 - One set of main entry doors will be designated for entry; one for exit
 - Footprint decals will be placed on hallway floors indicating the direction of traffic flow; possible use of cones to indicate proper sides of the hallway.
 - One set of stairs will be designated up and another down
 - Students will be dismissed from the building in small groups as designated by administration.
 - Use of common areas will be limited to times when social distancing can be maintained and students are supervised such as testing, related services, etc.

E. Critical Area of Operation #5 - Screening, PPE, and Response to Students and Staff Presenting Symptoms

- ❖ Screening Procedures for Students and Staff
 - Real Time Daily COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire - This feature will allow parents, students, and staff to track district selected COVID-19 related questions through the Parent Portal, Student Portal, or within Realtime (for staff). Reports

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will be available to discover students or staff that entered a specific answer or those that did not complete the screening questions for a selected day.

- Students will be screened daily either on the bus or in the main lobby, prior to going into class using contactless thermometers
- Staff may wish to visit the nurse to have temperature screening, but option will be provided for staff to certify themselves healthy via daily survey
- ❖ Protocols for Symptomatic Students and Staff
 - **Definitions:**
 - Confirmed Case: A person with a lab test confirming COVID-19
 - Probable Case: A person with clinical symptoms of COVID-19 with known exposure to a confirmed case
 - Close Contact: A person who was within 6 feet of a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case for at least 10 minutes
 - **FOR CONFIRMED CASE (STUDENT OR FACULTY):**
 - May recommend school-wide virtual instruction for a day to allow health department to complete investigation and contact tracing
 - All students and faculty in class or on bus with a confirmed case are quarantined for 14 days
 - Confirmed case will isolate for at least 10 days since their symptoms first appeared and they have no fever for 24 hours (one full day without the use of medicine to reduce fever) and symptoms improved.
 - **FOR PROBABLE CASE (STUDENT OR FACULTY):**
 - Probable cases should already have been under quarantine as close contacts and should not have been in school.
 - **FOR REPORTED SYMPTOMS (STUDENT OR FACULTY) WITH NO KNOWN EXPOSURE TO A CONFIRMED CASE:**
 - May recommend school-wide virtual instruction for a day to allow health department to complete contact tracing investigation
 - All students and faculty in class or on bus with a probable case are quarantined for 14 days or until Probable Case tests negative
 - Probable Case will isolate for at least 10 days since their symptoms first appeared and they have no fever for 24 hours (one full day without the use of medicine to reduce fever) and symptoms improved.
 - Probable Case is recommended for testing
 - Based on NJDOH COVID-19 Guidance for Reopening Childcare 7/20/20
 - **CLOSE CONTACT (STUDENT OR FACULTY):**
 - Student and faculty member with symptoms of COVID-19 stays home for at least 10 days since their symptoms first appeared and they have no fever for 24 hours (one full day without the use of medicine to reduce fever) and symptoms improved. May return earlier after negative COVID-19 test or alternative diagnosis is confirmed.
 - Symptomatic person is recommended for testing
 - Student or faculty that are close contacts of confirmed cases outside the school will quarantine for 14 days from last date of exposure

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- Assumption:
 - There is a low confidence that students and teachers can remain 6 feet apart during a class period
 - There is a low confidence that students can be six feet apart on the school bus. All bus trips are longer than 10 minutes
 - When a 6 foot distance cannot be maintained, the use of face coverings and physical barriers in a classroom are protective measures to decrease the risk of disease transmission, but do NOT eliminate the recommendation for individuals in the class or bus to quarantine if there is a positive or probable case.
- ❖ Protocols for Face Coverings
 - All bus riders will be required to wear a face covering (mask, bandana, gaiter) at all times.
 - Face coverings will be required for staff and students in all common areas and during transition times throughout the day.
 - When seated for instruction, students' face coverings may be removed if safe distancing is observed.
 - Shields or desk dividers may be used by teachers and students during instruction as an added precaution.
 - It is recommended that there be a formal procedure requiring medical documentation in the case of a family's refusal to wear a mask.
- F. **Critical Area of Operation #6 - Contact Tracing**
 - ❖ All school district administrators, nurses, school safety specialists, counselors, and any other staff deemed appropriate by the school district will be provided with information regarding the role of contact tracing in keeping school communities safe.
 - ❖ Superintendent and district administration will communicate and coordinate with the local health department to develop contact tracing policies and procedures, as well as educate the broader school community on the importance of contact tracing.
 - ❖ As per the county superintendent's office, the Warren County Health Department will conduct contact tracing.
- G. **Critical Area of Operation #7 - Facilities Cleaning Practices**
 - ❖ Cleaning and Disinfecting of Schools and School Equipment
 - All products used for cleaning/sanitizing will be on the CDC/DOH-approved list. A manual will be posted to the district website indicating products used.
 - Restrooms will be cleaned and disinfected hourly.
 - Only one student will be permitted in the restroom at a time. Custodians will clean after each use, whenever possible.
 - Paraprofessionals will be utilized to monitor bathroom trips and communicate to custodial staff to clean after each use.
 - Custodians will use disinfectant to clean and sanitize all "high-touch" areas throughout the day (doorknobs, handrails, office copiers, etc.)
 - Custodians will thoroughly clean/sanitize all classrooms at the end of each day.

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- Hand sanitizer dispensers will be accessible throughout all buildings.
- Paraprofessionals will assist custodial staff with wiping down outdoor recess equipment, when necessary.
- Water fountains will be shut down. Students will be encouraged to bring their own water bottles. Bottle refilling stations will be available in each building.

H. Critical Area of Operation #8 - Meals

- ❖ Meals will be provided to all free and reduced students
- ❖ Meals may be offered for all to purchase at the start of each day (if this option is deemed possible, there will be no cash sales. All meals would be paid for using the online portal.)
- ❖ Meals will be eaten in classrooms
- ❖ Students who receive free or reduced lunch that select the fully remote option will have designated pickup days, times, and locations to collect school lunches.

I. Critical Area of Operation #9 - Recess and Physical Education

- ❖ Classes will have recess by themselves
- ❖ Equipment will be wiped after each use
- ❖ Phys. Ed. will be outdoors as much as possible
- ❖ All activities will include social distance; no physical contact will be permitted
- ❖ Teachers will focus more on individual pursuits or skills rather than team sports or activities.

J. Critical Area of Operation #10 - Field Trips, Extra-Curricular Activities, and Use of Facilities Outside of School Hours

- ❖ Until further notice, it is recommended to
 - Postpone all field trips
 - Make all extra-curricular activities virtual
 - Not allow the use of indoor school facilities outside of school hours

K. Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports

- ❖ Evidence and Explanations
 - *ACADEMIC*
 - Students with IEPs and 504 Plans will have the option to attend all four days.
 - CST will monitor cases to ensure students with IEPs are receiving proper accommodations and modifications
 - Paraprofessionals will be utilized in all classrooms, as determined by IEPs
 - Related services will be provided in-person or virtually, as indicated in the IEP
 - Evaluations will be completed in a timely manner to the greatest extent possible
 - Assistive technology will be provided for those who require in IEP
 - Early, frequent assessment of all students

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- Small group instruction utilized whenever possible
- Use of MTSS to provide interventions
- All students will have access to their own Chromebook.
- Any student requiring a hotspot will have one provided.
- All staff will receive professional development on blended learning and remote instruction.

➤ *SOCIAL*

- Restorative practices will be utilized in all schools
- Social stories will be used for lower elementary grades

➤ *BEHAVIORAL*

- Guidance and CST will increase student monitoring, as appropriate

L. **Restart Committee**

- ❖ GMRSD formed a Reopening Committee in mid-June.
- ❖ Committee has met 6 times to discuss all aspects of reopening schools
- ❖ Superintendent, Business Administrator, Principals, GMRSD BOE representatives, Director of Buildings and Grounds, Technology Coordinator, GMREA representatives, two parents, guidance counselors, CST, and nurses (all listed on above chart).

M. **Pandemic Response Team**

- ❖ Formed at Central Elementary and Great Meadows Middle School
- ❖ Principals, Team Leaders, Crisis Team Members, Parent representatives
- ❖ Focus on building-specific items

N. **Scheduling of Students**

- ❖ School Day
 - Students returning to school in September will attend 2 days per week
 - Each day will follow an early dismissal schedule
 - PM hours will be used for staff to provide support to students who do not attend on a given day (1:00-2:25 at GMMS and 1:50-3:15 at Central)
 - Fully remote students will have a point of contact at their school for assistance
 - Fully remote students with IEPs will have a special education teacher assist
 - Homeroom teachers may do weekly check-ins with fully remote students
- ❖ Educational Program
 - In-person students (Groups Blue/Green) will follow the GMRSD BOE-approved curriculum
 - Fully Remote students will learn using the Edgenuity learning management system.

O. **Staffing**

- ❖ If staff members require telework or leave, schools are prepared to shift certificated staff to fill openings
- ❖ Staff requiring telework may be selected to work with fully remote cohorts
- ❖ Subs will be utilized, when necessary

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P. Athletics

- ❖ As a P-8 district, GMRSD does not have any formalized athletics
- ❖ Any activities would fall under extracurricular (see item J)

Proposed Hybrid / Blended Instructional Schedule

Blue Group:

Half of the students in each class will be grouped based on last name, alphabetically (for example, A-L).

Green Group:

The other half of the students in each class will be grouped based on last name, alphabetically (for example M-Z).

The groupings have NOT been determined as of yet. The above are examples only. After the groups have been determined, the following schedule will be designed. All days are ½ days of instruction for all levels to START THE YEAR. Adjustments may be made according to public health data. NOTE: the only exception to the scheduled days will occur the first week, so both Blue and Green groups can attend one day each.

Monday, August 31	Tuesday, September 1	Wednesday, September 2	Thursday, September 3	Friday, September 4
School Closed / Teacher PD	School Closed / Teacher PD	<u>Blue Group:</u> In-Person Instruction <u>Green Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> In-Person Instruction <u>Blue Group:</u> Remote Instruction	Individualized Student Support/Teacher Preparation for Blended Learning Model
Monday, September 7	Tuesday, September 8	Wednesday, September 9	Thursday, September 10	Friday, September 11
School Closed / Labor Day	<u>Blue Group:</u> In-Person Instruction <u>Green Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> In-Person Instruction <u>Blue Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> In-Person Instruction <u>Blue Group:</u> Remote Instruction	Individualized Student Support/Teacher Preparation for Blended Learning Model
Monday, September 14	Tuesday, September 15	Wednesday, September 16	Thursday, September 17	Friday, September 18
<u>Blue Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	<u>Blue Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	Individualized Student Support/Teacher

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<u>Green Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Blue Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Blue Group:</u> Remote Instruction	Preparation for Blended Learning Model
Monday, September 21	Tuesday, September 22	Wednesday, September 23	Thursday, September 24	Friday, September 25
<u>Blue Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	<u>Blue Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	Individualized Student Support/Teacher Preparation for Blended Learning Model
<u>Green Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Blue Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Blue Group:</u> Remote Instruction	
Monday, September 28	Tuesday, September 29	Wednesday, September 30	Thursday, October 1	Friday, October 2
<u>Blue Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	<u>Blue Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	Individualized Student Support/Teacher Preparation for Blended Learning Model
<u>Green Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Blue Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Blue Group:</u> Remote Instruction	
Monday, October 5	Tuesday, October 6	Wednesday, October 7	Thursday, October 8	Friday, October 9
<u>Blue Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	<u>Blue Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> In-Person Instruction	Individualized Student Support/Teacher Preparation for Blended Learning Model
<u>Green Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Green Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Blue Group:</u> Remote Instruction	<u>Blue Group:</u> Remote Instruction	