



GMRSD Virtual Town Hall

May 18, 2021



The Road Back

Moving Forward

❖ **Virtual Learning**

➤ Huge obstacles:

- Student independence
- Teacher limitations
- Intense demands on students, parents and staff
- Resulted in learning loss for many students in all schools

Learning Loss

Refers to any specific or general loss of knowledge and skills or to reversals in academic progress, most commonly due to extended gaps or discontinuities in a student's education. While learning loss can manifest in a wide variety of ways for a variety of reasons, the following are a few representative examples of widely recognized forms of learning loss:

Types of Learning Loss

Summer break

Interrupted formal education

Returning dropouts

Senior year

School absence

Learning Loss

- ❖ **GMRSD plans to combat learning loss in a variety of ways:**
 - **Students Achieving More in Summer (SAMS) Program - June 28-August 12 is an expanded extended school year program for General Education and Special Education Students**
 - **Learning Acceleration - Formed a committee that has begun to explore the most effective way to combat learning loss and accelerate learning to help our students “catch up”**
 - **More diagnostic reading assessments**
 - **Push for mastery of basic skills in ELA and math**
 - **Regular and frequent checks- progress monitoring**

Getting Back to Normal

- ❖ **Students Achieving More In Summer (SAMS)**
 - **More intensive academic support**
 - **Expanded days and hours**
 - **June 28th - August 12th (27 days previously 16) 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (previously 9-11)**
 - **Increase of 11 days and 2 hours each day**
- ❖ **70 invitations sent out at the end of April**
 - **Scheduling for 30 students to participate as of today**

What It Looks Like

- ❖ **Student Assessments - Link It - frequent and regular**
- ❖ **Link It! Intervention Manager**
 - **Focus on student grade level deficits**
 - **Regular assessments to determine baselines and progress**
 - **Specific course for each student based on their needs**
- ❖ **Less whole group instruction and more individualized**
- ❖ **4 groups (K, 1-3, 4-5 and 6-8)**
- ❖ **Students will rotate math, ELA and science**
 - **All certified subject area teachers**

Criteria For Summer

- ❖ **Students selected based on their 2020-2021 academic performance:**
 - Final grade of 75 or below
 - Have missed 15 days or more of school due to Coronavirus
 - Been a fully remote student for 90 days or more
 - Have teacher recommendation for the program
 - Show a 10% or greater drop in their final grade from the 2020-2021 school year as compared to the 2019-2020 school year.
 - Parent request to enter the program.
 - Benchmark score in the lower 30th percentile in ELA and/or math

Learning Acceleration

- ❖ **Despite the obstacles that have interfered with education, research shows that it is more effective to teach age-appropriate, grade level standards than to slow down or begin by going backwards.**
- ❖ **In other words, all students will start school in September 2021 the same way they would had Covid-19 not interfered with their education.**

Learning Acceleration, cont.

The three biggest keys to doing this successfully are:

- ❖ **Accurate assessments that provide quality, actionable data (Start Strong, Link-It, DRA, etc.)**
 - **Students will take benchmarks early where gaps will be identified**
- ❖ **Classroom differentiation**
 - **Teachers will individualize instruction to address gaps in the classroom**
- ❖ **Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (RTI, Smart Start, Targeted Assistance Clubs)**
 - **Programs before, during, and after school will be available to provide further support**

2020-21 End-of-Year Activities

- ❖ **8th Grade Picnic - June 10**
- ❖ **8th Grade Graduation - June 15**
- ❖ **3rd Grade Picnic - June 10**
- ❖ **Pre-K EOY Celebration - June 16**
- ❖ **Kindergarten Graduation - June 9**

September 2021

- ❖ RESET and REJOICE!
 - Time to start fresh in a post-pandemic world
 - Make the 2021-2022 school year a celebration of learning and community
- ❖ Guidelines (Masks, Distancing, etc.)
 - Will be communicated in summer



Questions

