

Good Shepherd Catholic School



Partnership

We often say we are part of the GSC family. In this school community we truly believe that we are stronger and better together. Our Mission Statement is based on God, Scholarship, Community, and Service.

Our faith tells us we are all many parts of the Body of Christ. This means we are more than just a family. As we prepare for this new school year, we need to form a partnership which is greater than ever before.

Our goal is to help you and your child to flourish in a caring and safe atmosphere. We are preparing them to be the leaders in this life and saints in the next.

In order to keep everyone safe it is important that you monitor your child's health daily. Please keep your child home when sick. Please follow the guidelines highlighted on page 1 of this document.

Cohorting

Each class will make up a cohort. The students will be together for the entire day with few exceptions. Children will have lunch in the classroom and outdoor recess as a cohort. Specials teachers will go into the classrooms. The teachers will switch classes in grades 6 - 8, since they are departmental.

Social Distancing

GSC's small class size allows for social distancing in the classrooms. Desks in most rooms are six feet. Hallways will be marked. Classes will not be moving through the hallways at the same time. We have cones to mark off areas for cohorts to gather or play. Social distancing will be observed in the classrooms, in the hallways and outside. At this time we are not planning to have the students gather outside in the morning.

Strategic Use of Mask

Mask will be mandatory:

- On the school buses
- Entering and leaving the building
- In the hallway
- During "special" classes
- When non-cohort members are in the classroom
- As requested by the teacher



If parents request their child wear a mask all day that will be acceptable.

We are in the process of purchasing desk shields so the children may not be required to wear the mask the entire day. These shields will fit our students' desks. (Pictured)

Enhanced Cleaning

All high touch surfaces (desk, doorknobs, light switches, etc. will be cleaned throughout the day.

Children will bring bottled water to school; common water fountains will not be used.

Children will clean their desk before and after lunch.

Children will sanitize their hands often.

Hand sanitizing machines will be at the entrance of school, in the hallways, and bathrooms. If we receive the PA grant, we will have no touch sanitizing machines in each classroom.

Health Monitoring

Parents are responsible for monitoring the health of their children. Children with a temperature are to be kept home. Teachers will check on the students during the day. GSC will implement random temperature monitoring.

Virtual Learning –

GSC will use in person and virtual learning.

If a child is sick, or a parent suspects the child may be sick, we will have an option where the child can join the class via a telecommuting practice. The major subjects will be available through this method. Materials will be exchanged through Google Classroom. More information will be available soon.

In the case where a cohort has been dismissed from school and COVID-19 has been identified, the entire cohort will utilize distance learning for the isolation period. Lessons will be delivered through a telecommuting platform, with heavy reliance on the Google Classroom.

Modified Attendance

Since we are encouraging parents to monitor health closely, and we also encourage keeping children home if they display symptoms, the grading of attendance has changed. Children will be marked as attending in person or attending virtually. Only when children cannot or do not participate in any of the virtual lessons, will they be marked absent. Guidelines for virtual learning will be given in another document.