

Global Community Charter School
School Reopening Plan
School Year 2020 - 2021



*NOTE: This plan is pending government approval and assumes public health requirements are met; thus, it is subject to change, given the uncertainties of COVID-19.

Guiding Principles

Guiding Principle 1 - We will fulfill our mission and meet our standards of excellence.

Guiding Principle 2 - The health and safety of our students and staff is paramount.

Guiding Principle 3 - We will be flexible and innovative in the face of evolving circumstances.

Guiding Principle 4 - We will be inclusive and equitable as we develop plans that serve a wide range of stakeholders.

Health and Safety

Our health and safety protocols are rooted in health and safety best practices. We will focus on simplicity, flexibility, and thoughtfully designed systems with students, families, and staff well-being at the forefront. We will practice social distancing to the extent possible and avoiding mass gatherings in large groups such as assemblies, cafeterias, field trips, and staff meetings.



Entrance Procedure

- Students and staff who are ill must stay home. The school will communicate this frequently to students/families and staff to avoid sick people coming to the school.
- Every day student and staff temperatures will be checked at arrival. Those with temperatures above 100.0°F will be asked to wait five minutes and then the temperature will be taken again. If the temperature is above 100.0°F a second time, the person will be sent home.
- For social distancing reasons, students will be assigned to enter one of four entrances. At the designated entrance, students will get their temperature taken and answer screening questions.
- All PreK - 2nd grade students must have an adult wait with them during arrival until the temperature screening takes place.

- If a 3rd - 6th grade student was sent to school unaccompanied by an adult, and has a temperature that exceeds 100.0°F, the family must make arrangements to immediately pick up their child.

Social Distancing

- Students who participate in blended learning instruction will be placed in a pod. Each pod of students will learn in a space where appropriate social distancing can be maintained. The number of people who can be in a space is determined by each occupant having at least 65 square feet of space. Students will remain in their pod throughout the school day and will not mix with other pods.
- In shared spaces, such as the lobby and the main office, floor markings will be placed to support social distancing.
- During safety drills, such as fire drills, efforts will be made to socially distance students and staff. When that is not possible, everyone will wear masks.

Personal Protective Equipment/Masks

- PreKindergarten - 2nd Grade: Will wear masks during arrival, dismissal, and during hallway transitions.
- 3rd Grade - 6th Grade and all adults: Will wear masks at all times except while eating. The school will strictly enforce the proper wearing of masks (covering the nose and mouth).

Hand Washing

- All students, staff, families, and visitors will sanitize their hands when entering the school building.
- Students will be taught the proper procedures for washing their hands.
- Students will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before and after meals, recess, and transitions.

Cleaning

- Bathrooms and high-touch surfaces will be sanitized frequently throughout the day.
- The entire school will be thoroughly cleaned at the end of each school day.
- Deep cleanings, using specialized equipment, will take place on Friday afternoons.

Lunch/Recess

- As it is a challenge to socially distance in a classroom, students will eat breakfast, lunch and snacks in their classroom.

- Weather permitting, students will have outdoor recess. Free play will be restricted in order to maintain proper social distancing. Recess equipment will be sanitized after every group of students.

Handling Suspected Cases

- The student/staff member will be sent to the nurse's office for evaluation. If the nurse determines the student might have coronavirus, the child will be quarantined in the designated location until they can be picked up by a parent. If the nurse determines a staff member might have coronavirus, the staff member will be sent home.

Handling Confirmed Cases

- Due to delays in testing results, the school will treat suspected cases as if they are confirmed cases. If there is a student with a confirmed case (or they live in the same household with someone who has a confirmed case), all students, the teacher, and any Specials teachers who came in contact with the child will transition to remote instruction for 15 school days. If there are three or more pods in the school that have transitioned to remote learning, the entire school will transition to remote learning.
- If a teacher has a confirmed case, the teacher's pod will transition to remote learning. If three or more teachers in the school have confirmed cases, the entire school will transition to remote learning.
- Anyone who tested positive for coronavirus must have a negative test result to return to in-person instruction.

Facilities

I. Cleaning Staff - Health Screening

A. Health Screenings:

- Prior to entering GCCS, all janitorial staff are required to complete a health screening, which includes having their temperature checked and answering questions about their health and recent travel.
- Any employee who is sick, has a high risk of prior exposure or has traveled from a high-risk geographic area will not be permitted to enter GCCS.

B. Personal Protective Equipment:

- To help maintain a healthy environment, janitorial staff will wear a face covering at all times. In addition to covering their face, employees will be expected to practice social distancing as much as possible.
- All janitorial staff will take proper precautions as stated by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) by: washing hands often with soap and water (for at least 20 seconds) or using hand sanitizer, not touching face with unwashed hands, staying home if not feeling well and avoiding touching others whenever possible.

II. Equipment and Chemicals

A. Equipment:

- Our janitorial staff will use an EvaClean Protexus Cordless Electrostatic Sprayer by EarthSafe. This powerful tool will assist in attacking microbes and decontaminating our facility more efficiently and effectively.

B. Chemicals/Products

- Janitorial staff will use Clorox 360, Lemon-Quat and Avistat-D disinfectants, all of which are EPA approved disinfectants and are effective against COVID-19.
- All cleaning products will be used according to the directions on the label to ensure maximum and proper usage.

III. Cleaning and Disinfecting

A. Disinfecting

- Janitorial staff will spray and disinfect all areas, restrooms and high touch point/contact surfaces on a daily basis. Janitorial staff will provide disinfection services during the nightly cleaning schedule.
- GCCS will be disinfected using Evaclean's touchless disinfection and sanitizing tool, the Protexus Cordless Electrostatic Sprayer.

- All disinfectants/products used are EPA approved in combating COVID-19.

Air Circulation Within the Building

In addition to the daily and weekly cleaning protocol we'll have in place, the school has made investments to other areas of building systems to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus, including:

Ultra Violet C Germicidal light installations to our rooftop Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning (HVAC) units. UV-C or germicidal UV is part of the ultraviolet spectrum that can inactivate pathogens like bacteria and viruses. It utilizes specific wavelengths of the ultraviolet spectrum, typically between 200 to 280 nanometers.

We've also installed air filters in our HVAC units with a Minimum Efficiency Rating Value (MERV) of 13, indicating their ability to capture particulate in the air as small as .3 microns.

For classrooms and workspaces without windows, we have invested in air purifiers with high Clean Air Delivery Rate (CADR), with filters that can capture aerosol droplets as small as .3 microns, which can include aerosol and droplet-based virus.

Child Nutrition

We will continue to follow all guidelines of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) to ensure proper nutritional guidelines are followed for in-school meal service.

For students in the blended learning program, all meals (breakfast, lunch, snack) will be served in the classroom. Working with our Food Service Management Company (FSMC), students will have the opportunity to take meals home for the days they are not in school.

For students participating in the 100% remote learning program, we will work with our FSMC to deliver NSLP-compliant meals to specific drop-off locations, consistent with our meal delivery program during the spring of 2020, and throughout the summer.

Transportation

Global Community Charter School partners with the Office of Pupil Transportation (OPT) to provide busing services to eligible students. We await guidance from OPT on the availability of busing services this school year. Should busing be made available, GCCS staff will work with OPT to perform regular school bus disinfection measures; train students and school bus staff regarding social distancing on the bus, at stops, and at unloading times; and train students and staff regarding the wearing of masks. Matrons, students and drivers will wear masks and social distance on the bus.

Social Emotional Well-being

The social emotional health of our students and staff is very important to us. This year we have seen an increase in stressors, notably our students being unable to interact with their friends and teachers during the pandemic, upheavals over racial violence, health concerns, economic insecurity, etc. We know children need consistency and structure, and, in part, that has informed how we have structured our hybrid model.

Staff Training

- The school employs three school counselors and has a counseling consultant who will lead professional development on trauma-informed practices.
- Teachers and leaders will be trained to recognize signs of psychological trouble; to address mild forms of sadness, anger, or other disturbances; and to help children develop healthy coping strategies.

Morning Meeting and Advisory

- Students in PreK - 5th will participate in Morning Meeting daily. Students in 6th grade will participate in Advisory. Students will participate in Morning Meeting or Advisory whether they are enrolled in the Blended Learning program or the 100% Remote Learning.

School Counseling Services

- All mandated services will be provided, either in-person or remotely.
- Teachers and/or families can refer students to at-risk counseling at any time throughout the school year.
- School counselors will also refer families to outside agencies for issues concerning housing, family counseling services, etc.

School Schedule

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Group A: In-person | Group B: In-person | Group A: In-person | Group B: In-person | Students with disabilities, ELLs, retained students, and homeless children |
| Group B: Remote | Group A: Remote | Group B: Remote | Group A: Remote | |

| In-person Day of Learning (K - 1st) | Remote Learning (K - 1st) |
|--|---|
| 8:00 am - 8:30 am: Morning Meeting 8:30 am - 9:00 am: Phonics 9:00 am - 9:15 am: Read Aloud 9:15 am - 10:00 am: Special 10:00 am - 10:55 am: Guided Reading 10:55 am - 11:45 am: Lunch/Recess 11:45 am - 12:00 pm: Quiet Time 12:00 pm - 12:40 pm: Student Led Discovery 12:40 pm - 1:35 pm: ELA 1:35 pm - 1:45 pm: Snack 1:45 pm - 2:45 pm: Math 2:45 pm - 3:30 pm: Special 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm: Closing Circle | Synchronous Learning Phonics: 30 minutes Guided Reading: 30 minutes Math: 30 minutes Asynchronous Learning ELA: Video of the lesson with an independent assignment Math: Independent assignment |

| In-person Day of Learning (2nd - 5th) | Remote Learning (2nd - 5th) |
|--|---|
| 8:00 am - 8:30 am: Morning Meeting 8:30 am - 9:00 am: Phonics 9:00 am - 9:15 am: Read Aloud 9:15 am - 10:00 am: Special 10:00 am - 10:55 am: Guided Reading 10:55 am - 11:45 am: Lunch/Recess 11:45 am - 12:00 pm: Quiet Time 12:00 pm - 12:40 pm: Student Led Discovery 12:40 pm - 1:35 pm: ELA 1:35 pm - 1:45 pm: Snack 1:45 pm - 2:45 pm: Math 2:45 pm - 3:30 pm: Special 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm: Closing Circle | Synchronous Learning Close reading: 45 minutes Guided Reading: 30 minutes Math: 45 minutes Asynchronous Learning ELA: Video of the lesson with an independent assignment Math: Independent assignment |

Attendance and Chronic Absenteeism

Consistent attendance, whether enrolled in in-person instruction or remote instruction, is important to student academic success. Students are expected to participate in instruction every school day.

Attendance

- Student attendance will be taken on a daily basis for students enrolled in the Blended Learning program and the 100% Remote Learning program. To be marked present during 100% Remote Learning, students must log on, remain connected, and actively participate throughout the duration of the class.

Chronic Absenteeism

- Significant efforts will be made to support students and families who are not engaged in learning. Efforts may include: support from the school counselors, ensuring students have the technology to complete remote assignments, providing one-on-one teacher support, etc.

Techquity

We seek to eradicate the uneven distribution in the access of, use of, and impact of information technologies.

Tech Distribution

- Every household that needs a device will be provided with a device. We define the need for a device as not having access to a laptop, Chromebook or iPad. If there is more than one child in the household, we will provide multiple devices to the same household if supplies permit.
- Devices are the property of Global Community Charter School and must be returned, when school is fully in session or the end of the school year.

WiFi Connectivity

- Reliable wifi is essential to participating in remote instruction sessions.
- Families that do not have reliable wifi should reach out to the school so they can be provided with a hot spot.

Teaching and Learning

During this unpredictable time, we are committed to families having the ability to select the academic program that they think is best for their child and their family. Families will enroll their child in either the Blended Learning program or the 100% Remote Learning program.

Blended Learning program

- Students enrolled in Blended Learning will spend some days learning on-site and participate in remote learning on other days.
- When students attend in-person instruction, families understand that their child will be held to all school policies including the attendance policy, the uniform policy, etc.

Remote Instruction program

- Students enrolled in 100% Remote Instruction will learn from home.
- Families understand that students enrolled in remote instruction will be held to the same promotion criteria as those in Blended Instruction.
- Families understand that in order for students to be marked present the child must sign on, remain for the duration of the lesson, and actively participate in instruction.

Specials Classes

- One of the key design elements of Global Community Charter School is art-integration. The Specials classes are equally important and students in both the Blended Learning and Remote Instruction must participate in the Specials on a weekly basis.
- Students will receive a Pass/Fail grade for the Specials classes they were assigned.

Special Education and English Language Learners

- All mandated services will be provided to students with disabilities and English Language Learners regardless of whether the child participates in Blended Learning or 100% Remote Instruction.