



Mission: Create a culture of deliberate excellence with equity

Vision: Every Graduate will be future ready for personal success, college and career, and the global marketplace

Gobles Public Schools

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Dear School Community

2021-2022 RETURN TO SCHOOL PROTOCOLS UPDATE

Since my first 2021-2022 school year communication to you back on July 13, 2021, the status of the coronavirus has evolved. Based upon current data, trends, and knowledge about COVID-19, on August 13, 2021, and August 20, 2021, respectively, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and Van Buren/Cass Health Department issued new guidance for education. Please visit our Gobles Public Schools District Website for access to the Requirements and Recommendations.

As mentioned in earlier communications, the Gobles Public Schools desires as much normalcy as possible for this 2021-2022 school year. With that being said, the District/Schools will prioritize the health and safety of our staff and students while balancing in person learning experiences. At a minimum, the District/Schools will implement and follow the Van Buren/Cass Health Department Requirements. These include:

- *Masking is required on school buses. Masking is not required in all other school settings.
- *Report suspected and confirmed COVID-19 (and all other reportable diseases, outbreaks, unusual occurrences) to the health department as specified under Michigan Administrative Code R. 325.173 (9).
- *Post COVID-19 case counts on your website as per MDHHS Epidemic Order, Reporting of Confirmed and Probable Cases of COVID-19 at Schools.
- *Keep employees sick with or exposed to (if unvaccinated) COVID-19 home as required by Public Act 339.
- *Exclude children ill with communicable illness (such as COVID-19) from school as specified under Michigan Administrative Code R 325.1754 (2):
- *Assist LHD with contact tracing as specified under Michigan Administrative Code R. 325.174(2).

It is important to note that Remote Learning will not be a tool for Michigan School Districts to utilize this school year as the Michigan Legislature has removed it as an option. As such, if at any time the District/Schools can't staff operations or student count falls below 75%, the District/Schools will be forced to close.

The Gobles Public Schools is committed to providing leadership and management regarding this health crisis while also planning for a safe and successful return to the classroom this fall. As the school year evolves, the District/Schools will continue to work with the Van Buren/Cass Health Department to monitor conditions and any adjustments to this 2021-2022 Return to School Plan.

Respectfully,
Jeff Rehlander