



Greene County Tech School District



Ready for Learning Plan 2020-2021

1st Day of School will be August 24, 2020.

As of July 28, 2020

Revised 8-24-2020

Revised 9-4-2020

Revised 10-8-2020



OVERVIEW:



The Greene County Tech School District has been diligently working to design educational opportunities for students based on the challenges faced by everyone in the past several months during the world wide pandemic of Covid-19. The GCT School District is committed to providing the best education for students even in the midst of challenging times. The following information provides an outline of the planning and vision in providing students the best education possible for the 2020-2021 school year. For the most up to date information about District and Individual Building plans related to Ready to Learn, please check the district web page under the Ready to Learn Tab located on the left hand side of the screen. We appreciate the community support and those who have dedicated their time and talents in creating a quality plan of education for students.

Investing in the Future...One Student at a Time!

District Ready to Learn Committee Members:

Gene Weeks, Superintendent

Amy Lucius, Assistant Superintendent

Scott Gerrish, Assistant Superintendent

Tammy Birmingham, LEA Supervisor, and Special Programs Director

Brian Brightwell, Technology Director

Kelly Dunn, District Treasurer

Donna Ashley, School Psychologist/District Testing Coordinator

Larry Mitchell, ESCHOOL Specialist

Kem Drake, Director of Gifted and Talented Programs

Tim Roswell, School Board Vice President

Chad Jordan, High School Principal

Charles Nelson, High School Assistant Principal

Dale Schenk, High School Assistant Principal/HS Athletic Director

Michael Todd, Jr. High School Principal

Keith Metheny, Jr. High School Assistant Principal,/JH Athletic Director

Jerry Dickson, Middle School Principal

Shane Jordan, Middle School Assistant Principal

Amie Cole, Intermediate School Principal

Ryan Carpenter, Intermediate School Assistant Principal

Caroline Schenk, Elementary School Principal

Mary Stormes, Elementary School Assistant Elementary Principal

Letha Clark, Primary School Principal

Amanda Finch, Primary School Assistant Principal

Kodie Potter, Preschool Principal

Mike Nunnally, Eagle Academy Director



Implementation:



- Fill out all necessary forms, MOU's and etc required by DESE, ADH, and CDC:
 - ESSER application
 - LEA Assurances and CARES Application
 - State Waivers Request
 - Ready for Learning Model Participation Form
 - GEER Certification form
 - Lincoln Learning Participation forms with APSRC
- Devise student/parent surveys to measure technology resources, Wi-Fi providers, family needs and to determine the concerns for returning to campus during the COVID-19 pandemic (May 2020-June 15, 2020)
- Serve as a guiding committee to help support the sub committees that are on both the district and on the building levels.
- Utilize the best research to decide how to spend the CARES funding on Personal Protective Equipment, and meeting the needs of faculty and staff in the areas of health and safety and in providing additional technology devices since the district is not one to one but working toward that goal.
 - Ordered PPE items for every building (disposable masks, cloth masks, thermometers, face shields, protective gowns, gloves, hand sanitizer, and additional cleaning items.
- Provide guidance and support in selecting the district's adopted learning management system (LMS).
- Revise the district's school calendar to present to the PPC Committee and the GCT School Board for approval incorporating the new start date of schools that was moved to August 24, 2020. Also, providing for blended site for 8 instructional days for students to learn remotely off site while teachers will be participating in professional development sessions that help support the adoption and integration of the district's LMS. (July 23, 2020).

Implementation:

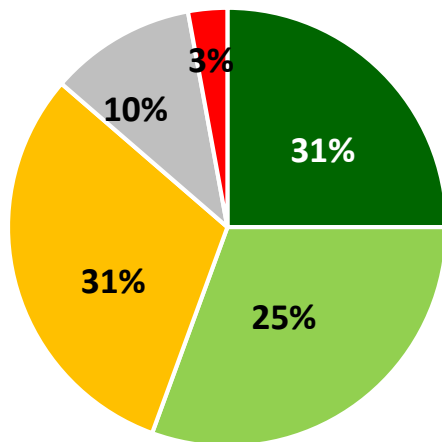


- Support faculty and staff in the creation of the Greene County Tech Virtual Learning Academy (GCTVLA) and provide professional development in the adoption of using Lincoln Learning (Buzz LMS), Google Classroom, and Zoom.
- Provide guidance in budgeting the district's finances and provide for the funds required to purchase 1100 additional Ipads (K-5) and 26 HP laptops (6-12). This will require existing laptops in GCT Elementary and GCT Intermediate School to be moved to GCT Middle School, GCT High School, and GCT Jr. High School in order to ensure that the district's goal of achieving a 1 to 1 device initiative is achieved to implement both blended onsite/remote instruction and exclusively virtual instruction.
- Determine the amount of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and coordinate with the Health and Safety committee to ensure that enough PPE will be available to begin school.
- Develop the district's Ready to Learn plan to submit to DESE and update the plan as it evolves and changes to meet the changing demands of the COVID-19 pandemic.

GCT Parent Survey #1 (After AMI) May 2020

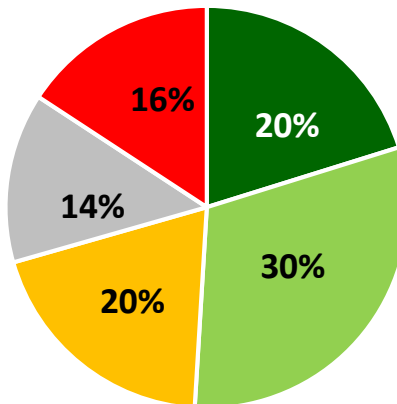
14% (520) responses received out of 3600 enrollment as of 6-30-2020

How well did your internet support student assignments?



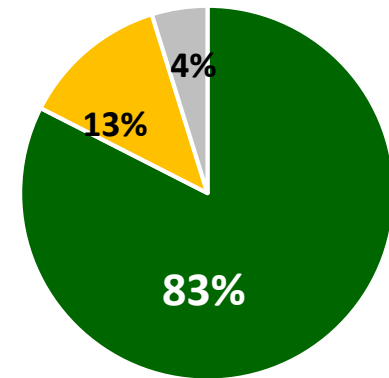
- Fairly well
- Quite well
- Extremely well
- Not well
- No Internet

How confident are you that your child could work in an online program?



- Slightly
- Somewhat
- Quite
- Extremely
- Not at all

Does your child have access to a device at home?

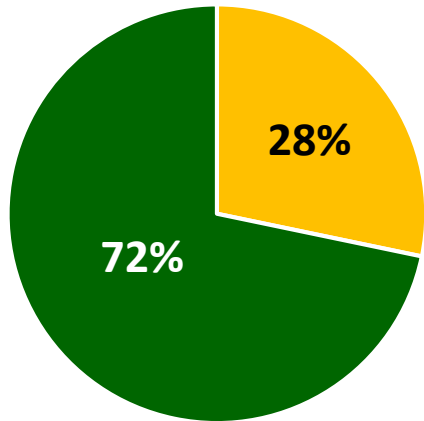


- Yes
- No
- Access but not at home

The GCT School District loaded assignments for AMI's on line and utilized paper copies to deliver instruction to students from March 13th to May 22nd, 2020 (Last day of school). To see how well the process worked a Planning Survey #1 was issued to parents to begin planning for the 2020-2021 school year.

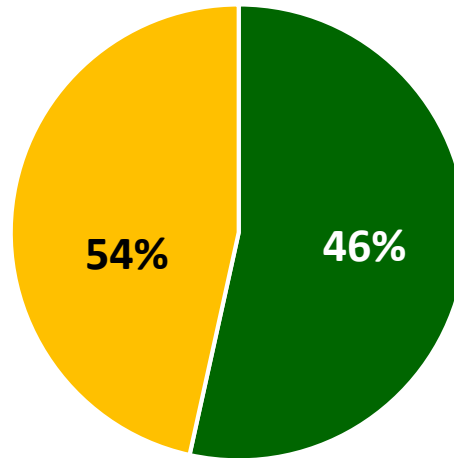
GCT Parent Survey #1 (After AMI) May 2020

Do you have limited amount of data for internet access?



■ Yes ■ No

Would you use a public hot spot in the community to access internet if needed?



■ Yes ■ No

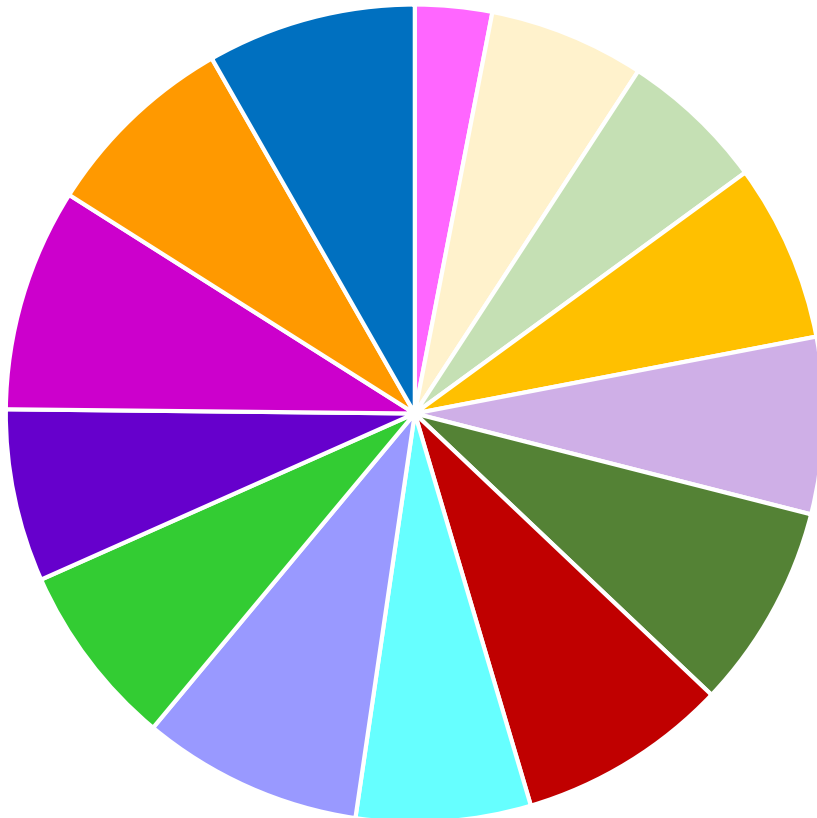


- Planning Survey #1 results were reviewed.
- Need identified to work on providing free CIPA compliant WI-FI access points in the district and in the community, and the locations for free Wi-Fi now include:
 - GCT High School front parking lot
 - GCT High School back parking lot
 - GCT Jr. High, Reynolds parking lot
 - GCT Bus garage parking lot
 - GCT Middle School parking lot
 - GCT Primary School front parking lotCommunity Partners (PLWC and BRTC) stepped in to offer free Wi-Fi in the following locations:
 - West View Baptist Church parking lot
 - 7th and Muller Church of Christ
 - Center Hill Church of Christ
 - Greene County Court House
 - Pecan Grove
 - Black River Technical College
 - Parking lot A, and Math Parking lotThe district is working with Craighead Electric and Empower to provide additional locations out in the rural areas asap.

GCT Parent Survey #2 results from June-July 2020

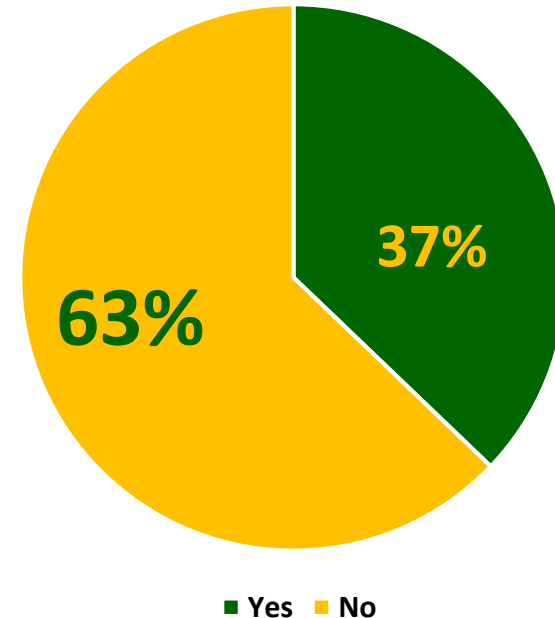
71% (2565) responses received out of 3600 enrollment as of 7-28-2020

Grade Response on Survey



PK K 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th
6th 7th 8th 9th 10th 11th 12th

Will your child Ride the bus?

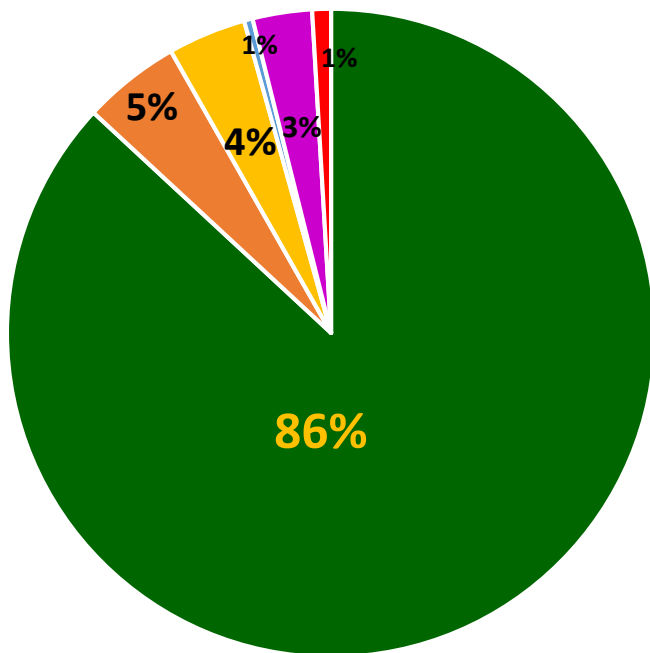


■ Yes ■ No

The GCT School District began devising plans for Blended onsite/remote instruction and Virtual (exclusively off site instruction) and began to plan for the students who would attend on site classes and for those who wished to attend virtually.

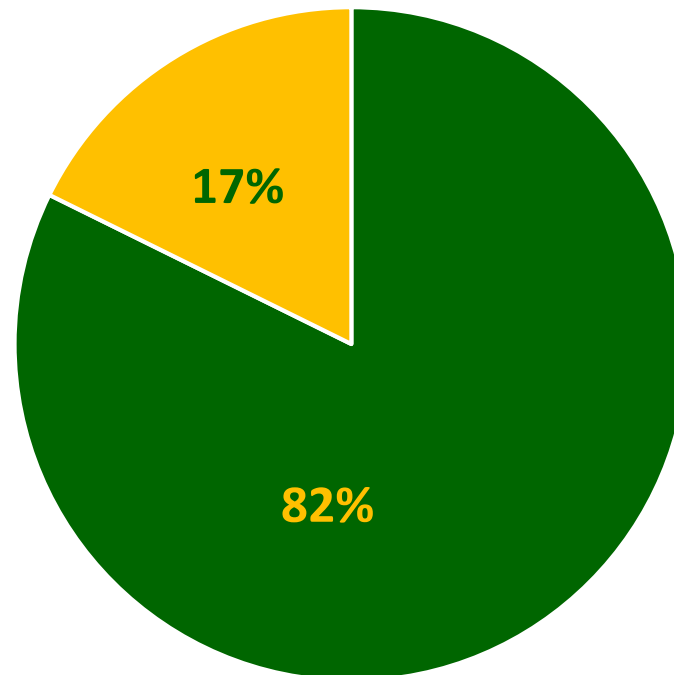
GCT Parent Survey #2 results from June-July 2020

What type of Internet Access do you have at home?



- High Speed
- Hot spot from phone/tablet
- Cellular access only
- Dial up
- Internet is in my area, but don't have it
- Internet is NOT available in my area

Will your child participate in Blended (On Site and Remote Instruction) or Virtual Learning?

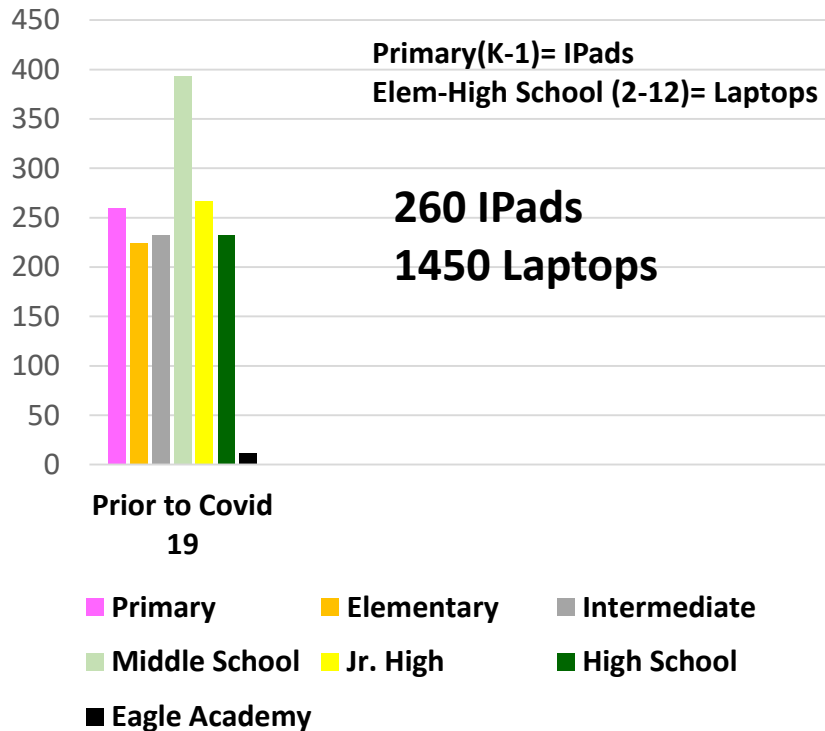


- Blended
- Virtual

Based on the results of the survey, the district began a plan to purchase more devices, and a plan to design blended on site/remote instruction and Virtually exclusive instruction.

GCT Student Devices Prior to Covid-19 and future planning to prepare for 2020-2021:

GCT Student Devices Prior to COVID 19



1710 total devices and 3499 Students as of May 2020 **NEEDED around 1790 DEVICES**

- **February 2020** ordered 90 laptops (60 replacements, 30 new for HS Gold Hall), this was on the rotation of regular planning.
- **May 1, 2020** (ordered 100 laptops, 90 for students, 10 for staff)
- **May 22, 2020** (ordered 300 laptops and 130 more additional IPads) Plus ordered 130 IPads and cases.

Ordered **620** more devices plus 1710 already purchased for a total of **2330** devices, **so short around 1170** devices.

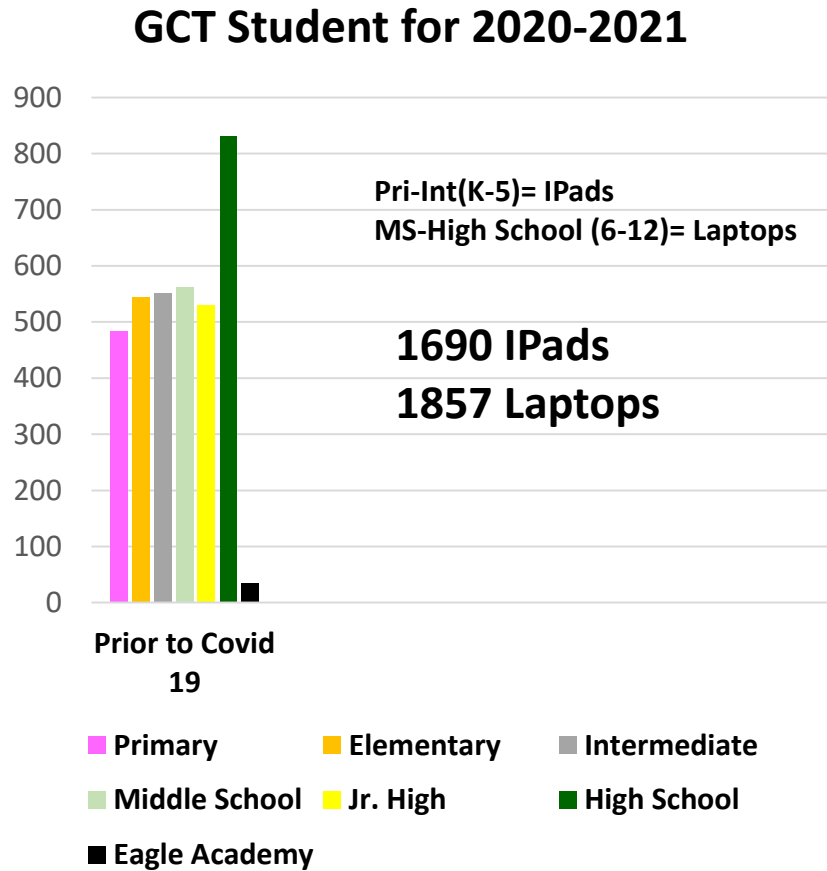
- Reviewed parent/student surveys and had to come up with a plan to not only fund additional devices than ones ordered above but to provide best devices for students. Decided to provide **IPADS** for students **K-5** and **laptops** for students **6-12**.

Refinanced Bond Issue July 23, 2020, used refinanced bond savings to purchase:

1275 IPads and 26 laptops

**Total Devices will be 1 to 1 for students
Achieving 10 year plus Goal!**

GCT Student Devices for 2020-2021: (Upon receiving from being ordering and being programmed and then checked out to students)



3547 total devices and 3505 students as of July 2020.

2020/2021 GCT School Calendar (7-13-2020)

August 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					6

September 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			21

October 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
						22

November 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					16

December 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		14

January 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						20

February 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						20

March 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			18

April 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	22

May 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					19

June 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

	Work Days Aug 10, 11, 12 and May 28)		Holiday-No School
	First day for students each semester (Aug 24 and Jan 4)		Flex Days (June 1, 2, 3, 4, 7) (Won't have to use because of Blended offsite remote days on instruction built in.
	Parent Teacher Conferences (Oct 29 & Feb 25) Could be Virtual on Oct. 30 and Feb. 26, This is a student attendance day.		Blended Instructional Days at home for students for Staff PD Support On Site
	End of Quarters Q1(44 days) Q2(45 days) Q3(44 days) Q4(45 days)		Graduation (May 21)

8 Virtual Learning Days (All students practice Virtual Learning Options) PK-12th

Currently Approved by ADE

1st Semester

Friday, September 25, 2020
Friday, October 30, 2020
Friday, November 20, 2020
Friday, December 18, 2020



2nd Semester

Monday, January 18, 2020
Friday, February 26, 2020
Friday, March 19, 2020
Friday, April 23, 2020

Virtual Day Details: All students PK-12th will do Virtual lessons on line at home

- Buses will NOT Run.
- Breakfast (Drive Through Pick Up) will be served behind Primary 8:00-8:30
- Lunch (Drive Through Pick UP) will be served behind GCT Primary School 11:00-12:00 P.M.
- Teachers will deliver Virtual Lessons to students from 8:00 to 11:30 using Google Classroom (Students should have school issued device and login to Google Classroom).

Teachers will participate in additional professional development training as needed in the afternoon and/or will communicate and work with students needing interventions.

If your child needs additional assistance on Virtual Learning Days, please contact your building administrator to schedule individual student appointments.

Make Up MONDAYS (K-12 only) PK will attend a normal day

New Proposal October 2020

1st Semester

Monday, October 19, 2020
Monday, November 9, 2020
Monday, December 7, 2020



2nd Semester

Monday, February 15, 2021
Monday, March 8, 2021
Monday, April 12, 2021

Make Up Monday Details:

- Buses WILL RUN • New Content will NOT be taught • Preschool will attend a normal day of classes
- Students will have option to stay at home to complete Virtual work in google classroom or to come to school to complete assignments. Attendance will be counted through virtual login and physical attendance not required.
- Breakfast and Lunch will be served in each building or a Breakfast (8:00-8:30) and Lunch 11:00-12:00 P.M. (Drive Through Pick Up) will be served behind GCT Primary School.
- Teachers will provide interventions and provide instruction to students who need remediation and additional mastery of content.
- To allow teachers to have time to communicate with virtual students and parents.

If your child needs additional assistance on Make Up Mondays, please contact your building administrator to schedule individual student appointments.

Greene County Tech Ready for Learning Plan

Actions and Assurances

- 1. Form committees inviting a variety of stakeholders to address all of the Ready for Learning systems as outlined by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).**
- 2. Provide a guaranteed and viable curriculum which provides both blended learning (onsite/remote) and virtual learning (exclusively off site) instructional experiences for students (K-12) and diagnostic assessments (K-8).**
- 3. Address and identify unfinished learning from the prior year and provide support for continuity of learning by using the Arkansas Playbook and district developed resources.**
- 4. Utilize a Learning Management System and develop policies and procedures to assist with implementation.**
- 5. Provide ongoing blended/virtual support and training to instructional staff.**
- 6. Provide support for parents and students as needed.**
- 7. Prepare facilities and buses for on-site instruction while following ADH and CDC guidelines.**
- 8. Create a communication plan for delivery of information to stakeholders.**

Action 1:

Form committees inviting a variety of stakeholders to address all of the Ready for Learning systems as outlined by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).



The Greene County Tech School District took the state's Ready for Learning Plan and assigned district and building committees to address all of the items to consider prior to starting school on August 24, 2020. The committees and the assigned committee chairs include:

District Ready to Learn Committee: Gene Weeks, Superintendent, Committee Chair

Academics Committee: Amy Lucius, Assistant Superintendent, Committee Chair

Technology Committee: Brian Brightwell, Technology Director, Committee Chair

Human Capital Committee: Amy Lucius, Assistant Superintendent, Committee Chair

Facilities and Transportation Committee: Scott Gerrish, Assistant Superintendent, Committee Chair

Student Support Committee: Tammy Birmingham, Director of Special Services and District LEA, Committee Chair

Stakeholder Communication/Family and Community Engagement Committee:

Donna Ashley, School Psychological Examiner/District Testing Coordinator, Committee Chair

Health and Safety Committee: Scott Gerrish, Assistant Superintendent, Committee Chair

Athletics Committee: Scott Gerrish, Assistant Superintendent, Committee Chair



Academics Committee:

Amy Lucius, Assistant Superintendent, Committee Chair

Committee Members:

Chad Jordan, High School Principal
Michael Todd, Jr. High Principal
Jerry Dickson, Middle School Principal
Amie Cole, Intermediate School Principal
Caroline Schenk, Elementary School Principal
Letha Clark, Primary School Principal
Kodie Potter, Preschool Principal
Mike Nunnally, Eagle Academy Principal
Charles Nelson, HS Assistant Principal
Kimberly Webb, Jr. High Mathematics Teacher
Larissa Newman, Eagle Academy Teacher
Meredith Baine, HS AP English Teacher
Nena Whittaker, HS English Teacher
Ryan Brewer, GCT School Board Member

Implementation:

- Organize Academic Learning Team sub committees in each of the district's buildings to prepare individual Ready to Learn Plans for each building.
 - GCT Preschool (PK)
 - GCT Primary School (K-1)
 - GCT Elementary (2-3)
 - GCT Intermediate School (4-5)
 - GCT Middle School (6-7)
 - GCT Jr. High School (8-9)
 - GCT High School (10-12)
 - GCT Eagle Academy
- Provide feedback concerning building plans and provide assistance with the GCT School District's Frequently Asked Questions document that is loaded on the district's website under the tab Ready to Learn.
- Provide assistance and input to the Technology Committee in helping to select a district Learning Management System (LMS) to implement (K-12).
- Create a list of resources for teachers to utilize in developing blended learning lessons and research the best professional development training for staff to use in implementing new learning systems.
- Create the structure for the district's Blended Learning On Site-Remote Learning plan and the GCTVLA exclusively off site learning plan.
- The committee will continue to meet to ensure that the academic learning plans of each building are supported and evaluated in order to provide the best instruction for every student.



Technology Committee:

Brian Brightwell, District Technology Director, Committee Chair

Committee Members:

Gene Weeks, Superintendent
Amy Lucius, Assistant Superintendent
Ryan Mason, Assistant Technology Director
Nathan Hill, Technology Specialist
Johnnie Murray, Technology Administrative Assistant
Larry Mitchell, E-School Coordinator
Chad Jordan, High School Principal
Michael Todd, Jr. High Principal
Jerry Dickson, Middle School Principal
Amie Cole, Intermediate School Principal
Caroline Schenk, Elementary School Principal
Mary Stormes, Elementary School Assistant Principal
Letha Clark, Primary School Principal
Amanda Finch, Primary School Assistant Principal
Kodie Potter, Preschool Principal
Mike Nunnally, Eagle Academy Principal
Dale Schenk, High School Assistant Principal/HS Athletic Director
Charles Nelson, High School Assistant Principal
Keith Metheny, Jr. High Assistant Principal/JH Athletic Director
Shane Jordan, Middle School Assistant Principal
Ryan Carpenter, Intermediate School Assistant Principal
Julie Morgan, Primary Math Instructional Facilitator
Amber Farmer, Primary Media Specialist
Sarah Simpson, Elementary School Media Specialist
Shayla King, Intermediate School Media Specialist
Kristin Morgan, Middle School Teacher
Becky Biggs, Middle School Teacher

Brad Snyder, School Board Member
Kim Simpson, Middle School Media Specialist
Dessira Wegner, Middle School Teacher
Debbie Copeland, Middle School Paraprofessional
Kendra Yeager, Middle School Teacher
Libby Mason, Jr. High School Teacher
Leigh Ann Gantt, Elementary School Teacher
Elizabeth Dunnam, Elementary School Teacher
Kaitlyn Brodell, Primary School Teacher
Kristen Hurt, Primary School Teacher
Ashley Robbins, Primary School Teacher
Heather Smith, Primary School Counselor



Technology Committee:



Implementation:

- Provide assistance to the District Ready to Learn committee in selecting the proper LMS (Google Classroom) for the district that can be supported by district systems including the technology Department
- Provide assistance with pricing devices in order to speed up the district's goal of becoming a 1 to 1 school with every student having a device to use in blended and/or virtual instruction:
 - K-5 (IPad with Keyboards)
 - 6-12 (HP Laptops)
- Provide assistance with checking out student devices procedures and develop a student check-out contract for students to have access to learning devices at home.
- Provide guidance and assistance in purchasing supporting software for teachers to use in Blended Learning:
 - Smart Board Suite Update (Price and purchase for staff to be able to use existing Smart Boards to record and capture lessons in a blended learning environment.
 - Zoom applications for faculty members who will need to host sessions for students and meetings.
- Coordinating with building administrators to provide the best systems for blended learning which support teacher:
 - microphones to enhance lesson recordings
 - laptops/web cams to record lessons
 - professional development in LMS (Google Classroom and Lincoln Learning)
- Design landing sites on the district's web page for each building to disseminate information for the Blended Learning on-site/remote instruction and Virtual Learning Exclusively off site instruction (GCTVLA) on the district's website providing one location for consistent and reliable information.

Human Capital Committee:

Amy Lucius, Assistant Superintendent, Committee Chair

Committee Members:

Curtis Hitt, GCT School Board Member

Andrea Smith, PPC Certified Staff Committee Chair

Ryan Mason, PPC Classified Staff Committee Chair

Amanda Finch, Primary Assistant Principal

Vanessa Harris, Payroll Clerk

Andrea Spence, Insurance Clerk

Jordan Blake, High School PPC Committee Member

Implementation:

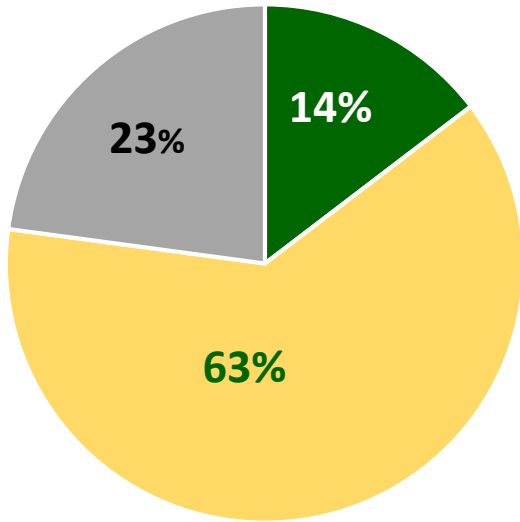
- Develop COVID-19 guidelines for faculty and staff that provides information on COVID 19 FMLA + leave that will be listed in the Teacher Resources list on the Ready to Learn tab on the district web page.
- Design a Faculty/Staff survey to gain insight into the thoughts and concerns of staff upon returning to work and being able to work remotely off site should a school closure occur again. Results of the staff survey were provided to committee members to review to continue to plan.
- Provide assistance with developing a frequently asked questions document that answers faculty and staff questions that were emailed out to staff and will be on the Teacher Resources section of the Ready to Learn Plan on the district's web page.
- Provide input in the selection of the district's point of contact (POC) for Covid-19 information to serve as the link with the ADH, CDC, and DESE.
- Provide support and encouragement to faculty and staff as the district navigates the COVID-19 pandemic as rules, regulations, testing, quarantining, and other issues occur.
- Provide assistance with ADH, CDC, and DESE, with Response Levels to Learning.



GCT Faculty/Staff Survey Results from June-July 2020

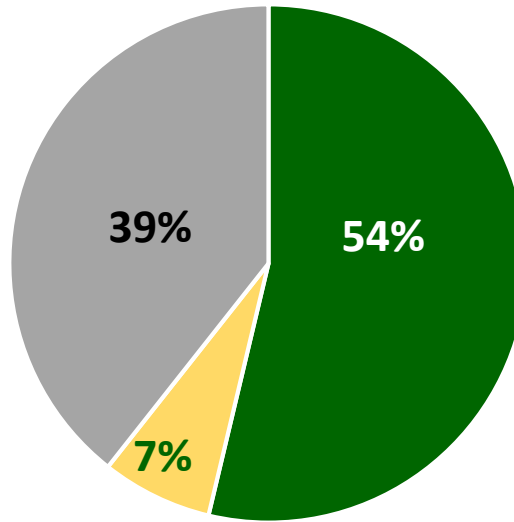
70% (376) responses received out of **540** employees as of 7-28-2020

Do you have safety concerns upon returning to work?



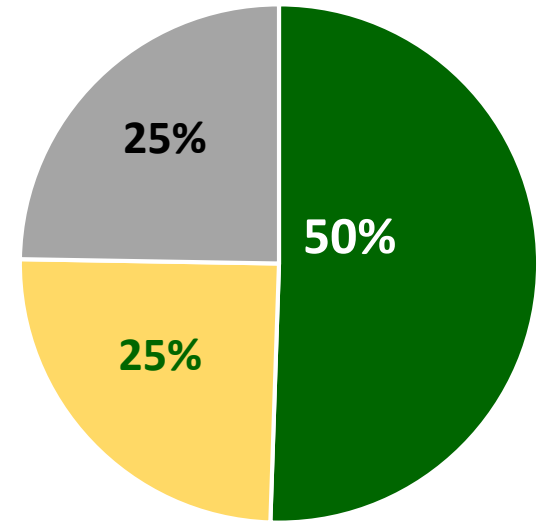
■ Yes ■ No ■ Maybe

Do you feel safe with safety measures in place to return to school?



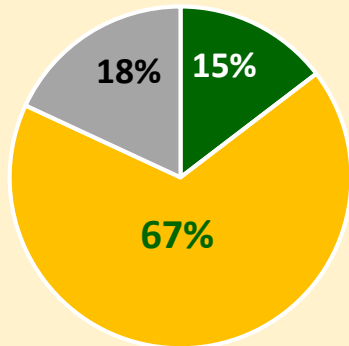
■ Yes ■ No ■ Somewhat

Do you have access to a device to teach remotely at home?



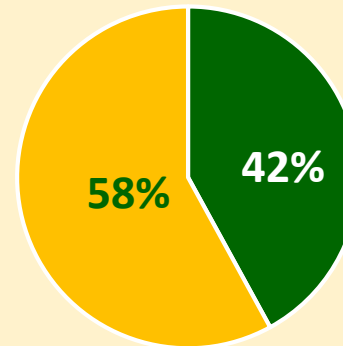
■ Yes ■ No ■ Varies on Users

How do you feel about teaching in a blended learning environment for 2020-2021?



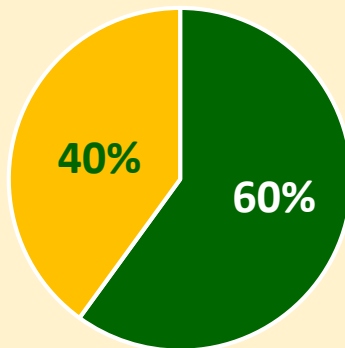
■ Confident ■ Confident with Concerns ■ NOT Confident

Do you have knowledge of Google Classroom to teach in a blended learning environment?



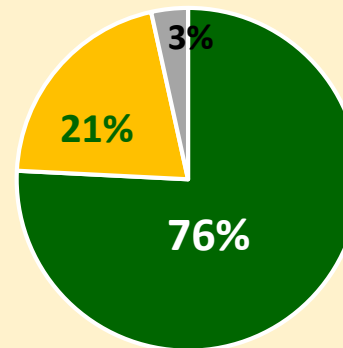
■ Yes ■ No

Do you have knowledge to teach with Zoom in a blended learning environment?



■ Yes ■ No

If you had to work from home do you have access to adequate internet connection?



■ Always ■ Sometimes ■ Never

Facilities/Transportation Committee:

Scott Gerrish, Assistant Superintendent, Committee Chair

Committee Members:

Donnie Russell, Director of Maintenance
Connie Henson, Director of Transportation
Jeff Combs, Bus Shop Supervisor
Tony Forehand, Bus Mechanic
Gene Weeks, Superintendent
Lora Laubach, GCT School Board Member
Kodie Potter, Preschool Principal
Caroline Schenk, Elementary Principal
Ryan Carpenter, Intermediate Assistant Principal
Shane Jordan, Middle School Assistant Principal
Keith Metheny, Jr., High Assistant Principal
Chad Jordan, High School Principal
Charles Nelson, High School Assistant Principal
Michael Finch, East Lab/AP Science Teacher, Bus Driver

Implementation:

- Determine the amount of capacity for various areas within each building (cafeterias, media centers, computer labs, gyms) to determine the amount of space to properly socially distance.
- Purchase additional cleaning supplies and adopt cleaning procedures for bus drivers and custodians to follow to add additional cleaning practices to combat COVID 19.
- Order signage to remind students/staff and visitors that social distancing and handwashing practices should be followed.
- Provide additional training on how to properly sanitize and complete additional cleaning of highly trafficked areas.
- Follow ADH and CDC guidelines to set breakfast and lunch feeding procedures with each building following social distancing guidelines.
- Develop busing guidelines that minimize the risk of infection, include cleaning and disinfection protocols.



Student Support Committee:



Tammy Birmingham, Director of Special Programs, and District LEA, Committee Chair

Committee Members:

Donna Ashley, School Psychological Examiner/District Testing Coordinator
Christi Clayton, Intermediate School Nurse
Lori Boyd, Elementary School Teacher
Amanda Finch, Primary School Assistant Principal
Caroline Schenk, Elementary School Principal
Teresa Brown, Eagle Academy Special Education Teacher
Tasha Brown, Elementary School Special Education Teacher
Niki Smith, Intermediate School Special Education Teacher
Nancy Mangrum, High School Special Education Teacher
Kathy Faulkner, Paraprofessional
Suzanne Belk, Board Certified Behavioral Analyst
Kristen Wegner, Pediatrician and parent
Jeremy Wooldridge, Clinical Director-Families Inc.
Jason Weatherford, GCT School Board Member
Charles Nelson, High School Assistant Principal
Seasons Rice, Due Process Designee
Autumn Hick, Parent
Shelley Templeton, Intermediate Teacher

Implementation:

- Communicate with parents about their child's assessment data and progress, which could include grade-level and standards-specific activities they can use to support their child at home and with blended learning models
- Communicate with families and parents about every student's progress and plans for students in need of additional support. This communication should be two-way communication so that parents and families may provide feedback and input about their child.
- Provide tele-therapy for specialty services in times of blended offsite instruction.
- Identify existing health and wellness supports and determine additional supports required to support learning:
 - Coordinated school health services
 - Health and wellness screenings
 - School-based health centers
 - Social-emotional learning curriculum
 - Counseling services
 - Mental health services, etc.
- Review IEP, 504, and other support plans to review needs in providing additional services.

Stakeholder Communication/Parent Family Engagement Committee:

Donna Ashley, School Psychologist, District Testing Coordinator, Committee Chair

Committee Members:

Charity Andrews, Intermediate Parent & Family Engagement Facilitator, Gifted, Talented, & Creative Teacher

Tammy Birmingham, Special Programs Director/
District LEA Supervisor

Lorie Boyd, Elementary/Intermediate Counselor

Shaunda Brewer, Speech Language Pathologist

Kem Drake, Administrator of Gifted Programs, District Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator

Amber Farmer, Primary Parent and Family Engagement Facilitator/Library Media Specialist

Kellye Frazier, School Psychology Specialist

Amy Lucius, Assistant Superintendent

Jesse Mann, Jr. High School Counselor

Hannah Mitchell, Parent Representative

Mary Stormes, Elementary School Assistant Principal

Ray Stricker, High School Counselor

Implementation:

- Contact parents/guardians periodically to determine what is needed to ensure their child is successful in blended learning and virtual learning environments.
- Recognize and promote the importance of Family Engagement as research indicates family engagement is one of the strongest predictors of student success in school.
- Disseminate information for families and students to see how education will look for the 2020-2021 school year following social distancing and ADH, CDC, and DESE guidelines.
- Prepare resources for parents on student trauma related to COVID-19 Pandemic cases to be provided to parents and students as needed.
- Provide assistance in developing district communication plans ensuring accurate information provided to stakeholders.

Health and Safety Committee:

Scott Gerrish, Assistant Superintendent, Committee Chair



Committee Members:

Lana Tedder, High School Nurse

Kim Anderson, High School Nurse

Angie Tibbs, Jr. High School Nurse

Gina Hobbs, Middle School Nurse

Christi Clayton, Intermediate School Nurse

Evan Rucker, Elementary School Nurse

Kelli Fahr, Primary School Nurse

Brandi Wells, Primary School Nurse

Brad Snyder, School Board Member

Implementation:

- Coordinate responses to the DESE document on the Response Levels for On-site Learning with the district's assigned Point of Contact (POC).
- Provide assistance with each building in determining the best social distancing practices and maximum capacity of specific areas (cafeterias).
- Determine the guidelines and develop systems to record the daily self screeners for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Provide assistance in determining the type and amount of PPE needed for faculty, staff, and students.
- Train staff on all safety protocols that should be followed with social distancing, proper hand washing, and etc.
- Monitor absentee trends and provide information to the District Ready to Learn committee.



Teacher Partition

Thank You to **Anchor Packaging**, who donated several thousands rolls of plastic, the GCT School District Maintenance and Custodial staff are constructing partitions for additional protection for teachers to stand behind during blended on-site instruction with students, and will provide dividing partitions on cafeteria tables to help provide additional layers of protective barriers to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. The Greene County Tech School District Health and Safety Committee is still working and thinking of ways to provide additional safety procedures for faculty and staff.

Thank You



Cafeteria Table Partition

Athletics:

Scott Gerrish, Assistant Superintendent, Committee Chair:



Committee Members:

Dale Schenk, High School Assistant Principal, and High School Athletic Director

Keith Metheny, Jr. High School Assistant Principal, and Junior High Athletic Director

Gene Weeks, GCT Superintendent



Implementation:

- All sports and activities governed by the Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) will follow the recommended guidance by the ADH and CDC.
- Purchased face masks for all students to wear, coaches and staff should wear face masks at all times.
- Limit the number of athletes at each training session, and athletes will need to come dressed to participate, as locker rooms will be closed.
- Hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes will be available and equipment will be sanitized after each session.
- GCT coaching staff will be trained in AAA, ADH, and CDC guidelines for safety and prevention of spreading COVID 19.
- Communicate with parents/guardians on a regular basis on safety measures being followed and if students receive a positive test.

Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum

A guaranteed and viable curriculum will be implemented throughout the Greene County Tech School District in two models of learning instruction.

The first (1st) option of the GCT instructional model will be blended on site/remote instruction should school closes based on district, ADH, CDC, or DESE guidelines.

GCT teachers (Core content, and specialty teachers) worked to prepare curriculum using (Google Classroom and Zoom) to provide blended learning lessons for students on site/and remotely if school closings should occur.

The second (2) option will be exclusively online instruction provided in the Greene County Tech School District Virtual Academy (GCTVLA).

GCT will assign Virtual learning (GCTVLA) teachers who will utilize a combination of Lincoln Learning with the Buzz Learning Management System, Google Classroom, and Zoom to deliver exclusively digital lessons to students who will be taking courses completely online.

Renaissance Star diagnostic assessments (K-8) will be used to identify students' strengths and weaknesses and will be utilized to develop individual instructional plans for addressing unfinished learning and shape future instruction. Additionally, other local, common assessments, and reading screeners aligned with the Science of Reading will be used to identify areas of need and provide point in time remediation and enrichment needs for students.

GCT Models of Learning

Option 1

Blended On-Site/Remote

A combination of face to face instruction in the classroom, combined with technology (Google Classroom and Zoom). Students will be on site for instruction and remotely if needed.

Select this option for the most traditional school experience. Virtual Open House will be available prior to August 24, 2020.

LOCATION:

Physically on site instruction on campus at the Greene County Tech School District, every day Monday-Friday except for holidays and 8 scheduled blended learning days for faculty and staff to have additional support in implementing learning management systems. Will be remote learning with Google Classroom and Zoom if closing school occurs due to District, ADH, CDC, or DESE guidance.

TEACHERS:

GCT Certified Teachers

TRANSPORTATION:

Bus Transportation **will be provided** and normal car Line options available for parents/guardians.

Option 2

Exclusively On-Line

Greene County Tech Virtual Academy (GCTVLA)

Virtual Learning is off site learning completely on line instruction for at least 4-5 hours a day.

Select this option for off campus instruction for a semester at a time. Virtual Open House will be available prior to August 24, 2020.

LOCATION:

Commitment deadline to enroll in the GCTVLA is July 31, 2020 and is for a semester.. Enrollment forms and information can be found at:

<https://www.gctsd.k12.ar.us/blended-learning>

TEACHERS:

GCT Certified Teachers

TRANSPORTATION:

NO Bus Transportation provided. **If students participate in events/activities, parent/guardian transportation is required.

Curriculum:

- Instruction provided by GCT teachers using Google Classroom, Zoom, and other instructional content
- Core Content will include:
 - Literacy
 - Math
 - Social Studies
 - Science
- Pre-AP, AP, GT, CTE, and specialized classes such as computers, library, Art, Music, PE/Health, and other elective courses will be provided
- On-Site Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) activities (following AAA rules and regulations)

Curriculum:

- Instruction provided by GCT teachers using Lincoln Learning, Buzz, Google Classroom, Zoom and other digital recourses
- Core Content will include:
 - Literacy
 - Math
 - Social Studies
 - Science
- Some Pre-AP, AP, GT, CTE, and specialized classes such as computers, library, Art, Music, PE/Health, and other **electives may not** be available due to enrollment numbers and limited instructors.
- To participate in extracurricular activities such as band, choir, athletics, and etc, students will be required to attend one class period under the Arkansas Athletic Association (AAA) Rules.

CURRICULUM

CURRICULUM

Classroom Experience:

- Teachers will provide in person instruction daily with technology incorporated in the instruction.
- Teachers follow the district curriculum
- Students utilize Google Classroom and Zoom to enhance learning with digital content.
- Students transition from off site to remote learning as required by the District, ADH, CDC, and DESE.
- Social distancing will be practiced, where feasible and applicable.
- Students will be required to wear masks

Classroom Experience:

- Teachers will provide virtual instruction in scheduled lessons that can be accessed by students during the entire semester of enrollment in both live and pre-recorded formats.
- Teachers will use Lincoln Learning and Google Classroom to deliver lessons along with other technology software applications.
- Individualized Zoom instruction available for video conferencing and scheduled as needed.
- Teachers check student grades regularly and communicate with parents and students

Student Expectations:

- Attend school every day for in person blended instruction on site, and remotely when circumstances arise.
- Students will need to stay home and communicate with teachers should they fall ill or need assistance with moving to remote learning options.
- Follow social distancing guidelines and wear masks covering the nose and mouth when social distancing guidelines can not be followed.
- Participate in blended learning instruction activities
- Complete formative and summative assessments
- Complete assignments and assessment which will be part of the student's grade.
- Transition to virtual learning remotely when required by the District, ADH, CDC, and DESE

Parent Expectations:

- Screen students daily prior to sending to school
 - Fever above 100.4F or greater in past 2 days?
 - Had a cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat or loss of taste or smell?
 - Been in contact with a person known to be infected with COVID-19?
- Encourage students to wear face mask/coverings, and practice safe hand washing practices
- Communicate with teachers
- Monitor student grades via the Home Access Center (HAC)
- Ensure daily attendance both on site/and remotely
- Encourage students to complete assignments

Length of the Day:

Check each school for school start and dismissal times.

Student Expectations:

- Attend all virtual sessions provided by GCTVLA teachers.
- Access online content and submit assignments on time and within the assigned deadlines.
- Communicate with teachers about learning and schedule 1:1 conferences with teachers by appointment.
- Complete online formative and summative assessments as assigned, some may have to be taken physically on campus.
- Students will be responsible for completing assignments and assessments in a timely fashion which will be part of the students' grade.
- Attend Zoom meetings with teachers when requested.
- Wear a face mask or face covering while on campus for any activity or assessment.

Parent Expectations:

- Create a quiet learning space complete with WI-Fi Access
- Communicate with teachers
- Sign the GCTVLA Enrollment Contract prior to July 31, 2020 and turn in the following documents:
 - Enrollment Form
 - Student Internet Use Agreement
 - Check out a Device Contract (If student checking out a device)
- Discuss daily lesson assignments with students
- Monitor student grades via the Home Access Center (HAC)

Length of the Day:

Time will vary to complete personalized learning online assignments and participate in scheduled video conferences with teachers.

Student Support:

- Students with special needs or weakened immune systems will be accommodated.
- Language support for English Learners will be provided for meaningful learning experiences.
- Both oral and written communication will be provided in a variety of languages to ensure effective communication exists with parents/guardians.
- In the event of a school closure, students with special needs (Special Education, 504, Dyslexia, Speech, and etc) will participate in live instruction with scheduled Zoom video conferencing sessions.
- The GCT Special Programs Department will work with families to meet the needs of individual students.

Activities:

- Students participate in on-campus activities, which will be limited based on guidance from the ADH, CDC, AAA, and DESE.
- Recess will be provided when possible with sanitizing of equipment when possible.
- Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) offerings provided (team sports, band, spirit squads, choir, and etc).

Food Service:

- Free Meals will be provided by the district through a state grant until 12-31-2020 to all students.
- Breakfast and lunch will be provide each day that school is open for students.
- Students may have to eat in their classrooms when social distancing guidelines and maximum capacity guidelines can not be followed.
- Surfaces will be frequently sanitized and Social distancing practices will be practiced when possible.

Student Support:

- Students with special needs or weakened immune systems will be accommodated.
- Language support for English Learners will be provided for meaningful learning experiences.
- Both oral and written communication will be provided in a variety of languages to ensure effective communication exists with parents/guardians.
- In the event of a school closure, students with special needs (Special Education, 504, Dyslexia, Speech, and etc) will participate in live instruction with scheduled Zoom video conferencing sessions.
- The GCT Special Programs Department will work with families to meet the needs of individual students.

Activities:

- Participate in online activities and projects as assigned by GCTVLA teachers.
- Attend Zoom and other technology meetings upon request and as needed to complete curricular assignments.
- To participate in extracurricular activities such as band, choir, athletics, and etc, students will be required to attend one class period under the Arkansas Athletic Association (AAA) Rules.

Food Service:

- Virtual students can come to the back of Primary school on Rocking chair road daily. There is a curbside sign that shows the number to call to have meals brought out to the vehicle. The student must be present and we will check off the name of the student. Free Meals will be provided by the district through a state grant until 12-31-2020 to all students.



Action 3:

Address and identify unfinished learning from the prior year and provide support for continuity of learning by using the Arkansas Playbook and district developed resources.



Addressing Unfinished Learning:

Students have not been on school campus in a structured classroom environment since March 13, 2020. Ensuring a smooth re-entry into the learning environment by creating safe and supportive culture hopefully will ease the transition to on site blended learning.

- To provide support for students, virtual open house videos will be loaded on each building's Ready to Learn Website prior to August 24, 2020. Students will be provided a virtual tour of the school building, meet teachers, and receive important information on routine procedures.
- The first few days in each building will be different but will focus on embedding social emotional support for students and will focus on reviewing procedures including:
 - Building procedures and rules
 - New Learning Processes with on site instruction expectations and guidelines
 - Social-Emotional Support
 - Technology use and safety
 - Blended Learning (Google Classroom and Zoom)
 - PPE etiquette, social distancing guidelines, and new safety requirements
 - Pivoting Instruction Circumstances
- Students will complete screeners and assessments during the first few weeks of school to determine what individual academic supports are needed to address any skill deficits using the Plan, Do, and Check process.



Addressing Unfinished Learning:

- The Arkansas Playbook will be used to address unfinished learning through the following:
 - 1) Unit Plans
 - 2) Social/Emotional strategies, support plans, and resources
 - 3) Family and Community Engagement Resources
 - 4) Support resources for developing common formative assessments
- Renaissance Star (K-8) Interim Assessments could be used to determine student learning gaps.





Action 4:



Utilize a Learning Management System and develop policies and procedures to assist with implementation.



Learning Management System (LMS):

- All blended on site classrooms in (K-12) will utilize Google Classroom as their LMS.
- Zoom is another technology application that could be utilized by teachers to provide a face to face connection with students if blended learning moves from on site to remote instruction.
- GCTVLA will utilize Lincoln Learning with the Buzz LMS in coordination with Google Classroom and Zoom.
- Apex Learning Systems will be used in conjunction with Google Classroom for some credit recovery classes and in Eagle Academy as needed.





Action 5:



Provide ongoing blended/virtual support and training to instructional staff.



LMS Training for Faculty and Staff:



- GCT will provide training to support faculty and staff in the school's adopted LMS and other technology applications/programs.
 - Each building will offer personalized training sessions for Google Classroom for faculty and staff prior to school starting on August 24, 2020.
- Google Classroom training videos and frequently asked questions will be loaded on the teacher resource page on the district's web site, in which teachers may login and using a passcode access the training information and helpful tips.
- Provide ongoing support and training in implementing the Google Classroom LMS will be provided in the schools' calendar for four days first semester (4) of remote learning for students, where staff will be on campus to receive additional training and support in implementation of the district's LMS system and to practice virtual learning delivery systems. Information on the 4 days for the second semester will be determined based needs after December 2021.
- Provide ongoing training to the GCTVLA teachers who will be implementing Lincoln Learning Buzz LMS systems in combination with Google Classroom and Zoom.
- Provide continued support and training in other software programs, and etc that will be needed to provide a quality instruction to students for the 2020-2021 school year.

Blended Learning Units:



- Each GCT building will determine the instructional outline for Google Classroom for teachers to follow in developing and creating blended learning lessons.
 - Teachers and Instructional Specialists will develop example remote learning lessons aligned with the district's curriculum and state standards.
 - Teachers volunteer to create remote lessons, that can be implemented upon having to quickly pivot from on-site to remote learning.
 - The lessons will be available on the Ready to Learn tab for each building/teacher located on the district's website under the Ready to Learn Tab.



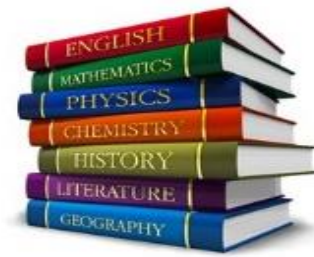
Action 6:



Provide support for parents and students as needed.



Academic Support for Families and Students:



- The district will provide LMS support videos on the district's web site that will provide information on how to log in and manage some features of Google Classroom in order to provide information on the LMS so parents can assist their children at home if needed during blended remote instruction.
- Events and information about academic support will be available at each building on the district web site.
- Teachers will be available to families to provide academic support whether on site or remote instruction occurs. Families and students will be able to communicate with teachers through the following:
 1. Email
 2. Phone calls
 3. Zoom/Google Classroom
 4. Messages through Remind 101
 5. In-person conference if deemed necessary following health and safety guidelines in place by ADH and CDC at the time.

Technology Support for Families and Students:



- Students and Parents/Guardians will review and sign the Checkout Device Contract
- When devices arrive from being ordered from vendors, each student will be provided with the following to support blended, on site/remote instruction and virtually exclusively instruction.
 - iPads for (K-5) students
 - HP Laptops (6-12) students
- Each building will be providing a schedule and a process to pass out devices to students.
- Families who do not have adequate internet access to support blended learning during times of closure will access to the following:
 - District Wi-Fi access points are located at GCT High School Front Parking lot, GCT High School back parking lot, GCT Jr. High School Reynolds Gym parking lot, GCT Bus Garage Parking Lot, GCT Middle School front parking Lot, and the GCT Primary School front parking lot.
 - Community free PLWC access points include parking lots outside West View Baptist Church, 7th and Mueller Church of Christ, Center Hill Church of Christ, Greene County Courthouse, and Pecan Grove.
 - Black River Technical College in Paragould, Parking Lot A and the Math Center Parking Lot.
 - The district is working on a partnership with Craighead Electric Company and Empower to provide additional access points.

Social Emotional and Physical Support for Families and Students:



- GCT buildings will provide Social Emotional Learning curriculum as outlined in the DESE Guide for Life which will be designed to outline student behavior and provide ways to support the needs of students.
- The DESE playbook has resources specifically addressing social and emotional support and is available to families and parents online at the DESE website.
- The counselor's offices at each school in the district are ready to support the needs of students through the implementation of the Comprehensive Support Services Plan.
- The Greene County Tech School District provides a number of community resources for those in need, if you should need assistance, please reach out and contact a building social worker, who will gladly provide assistance.



Action 7:



Prepare facilities and buses for on-site instruction while following ADH, CDC, and DESE guidelines.



Logistics and Safety Measures:



Enhanced Cleaning Measures:

In addition to normal daily cleaning routines, additional cleaning measures will be followed to combat COVID-19:

- Disinfect heavily trafficked areas

Restrooms/Bathrooms

- Door knobs/handles
- Paper towel dispensers
- Faucet handles
- Toilet partitions

Lunch Room/Cafeteria

- Table tops
- Door knobs and handles
- Light switches
- Seating

Classrooms

- Door knobs/handles
- Desktops
- Seating
- Pencil sharpener
- Shared books

Offices

- Door knobs/handles
- Telephones
- Light switches
- Copiers/intercoms

For areas requiring deep cleaning, a bleach and water solution will be used along with specialty products.

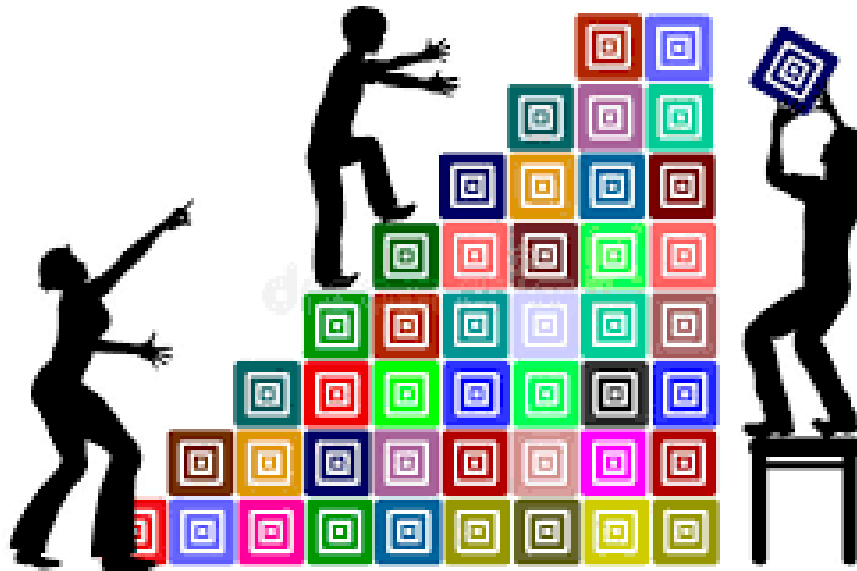
- All staff will self screen upon coming to school each day and parents should also self screen students
 - 1) Have you had a fever of 100.4 F or higher in last 2 days?
 - 2) Have you had a cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, loss of taste and smell?
 - 3) Have you been in contact with a person known to be infected with COVID 19 in the past 14 days?
- Provide additional training on cleaning techniques to custodial staff
- Follow the ADH and CDC guidelines and will be in compliance with the suggested cleaners and system of operations.
- Hand Sanitizing stations will be provided at designated locations in each building.
- Special partitions will be constructed with a donation of plastic film rolls from Anchor Packaging to place on lunch room tables, and in classrooms where teachers need to provide face to face instruction (Speech).
- Touchless water refill stations will be provided in buildings as water fountains are closed due to ADH guidance.
- Buses will run on normal transportation schedules, and students will be required to wear a mask due to the close proximity of seating. Buses will be disinfected after each A.M. and P.M. route.
- No Self Service options will be available in the cafeterias. The district received a state grant and as of 9-4-2020 through 12-31-2020 all students will eat free in the cafeterias for both breakfast and lunch.



Action 8:



Create a communication plan for consistent delivery of information to all stakeholders.



Communication Plan:



The GCTSD will utilize the following communication medias to communicate with families:

- District Website (www.gctsd.k12.ar.us)
- Tech TV (Channel 26) who also has a you-tube channel
- Tech Connect (Sign up to download application on your android or iPhone)
- Building Facebook Pages
- Gmail/Email
- Remind 101 groups in buildings and for activities/athletics
- GCT Athletics Twitter/Dale Schenk, GCT High School AD

- On the GCTSD Website, a tab for Ready to Learn is on the left hand side and COVID-19 updated information will be provided at this location. Other important announcements will be scrolled on the front of the district's web page. Each building will also have a tab to access additional information related to COVID-19 and Ready to Learn.
- Communication will occur regularly and promptly at the district and building levels as information becomes available or should change due to ADH, CDC, DESE guidelines related to COVID 19, and Ready to Learn Information. Stakeholders should check out the district's web page for additional information such as frequently asked questions and informational videos that will be coming.

Ready for Learning Plan Points of Contact

For questions relating to building specific programming or procedures, please contact the building your student is enrolled in.

GCT Preschool (PK) **870-215-4470**

GCT Primary School (K-1) **870-215-4420**

GCT Elementary School (2-3) **870-215-4430**

GCT Intermediate School (4-5) **870-215-4440**

GCT Middle School (6-7) **870-215-4480**

GCT Jr. High School (8-9) **870-215-4450**

GCT High School (10-12) **870-215-4460**

GCT Eagle Academy **870-215-4400 ext 1410**

GCT Central Office **870-236-2762**

GCT Transportation **870-239-3281**

GCT Special Programs **870-215-4410**

GCT Food Service **870-215-4417**

Additional Contact Information:

GCT Superintendent:

Gene Weeks 870-236-2762 or email Gene.Weeks@gctschools.net.

GCT Assistant Superintendents:

Amy Lucius 870-236-2762 or email Amy.Lucius@gctschools.net or

Scott Gerrish 870-236-2762 or email Scott.Gerrish@gctschools.net.

Student Services Director/District LEA: Tammy Birmingham 870-215-4410 or email Tammy.Birmingham@gctschools.net

Technology Director: Brian Brightwell, 870-215-4400, extension 1900 or email Brian.Brightwell@gctschools.net.

District Testing Coordinator/School Psychological Examiner:

Donna Ashley, 870-215-4400 or email Donna.Ashley@gctschools.net.

Junior High (7-9) Athletic Director: Keith Metheny 870-215-4450 or email Keith.Metheny@gctschools.net.

Senior High (10-12) Athletic Director: Dale Schenk 870-215-4460 or email at Dale.Schenk@gctschools.net.

E-School, Home Access Center Director: Larry Mitchel 870-215-4400 extension 1900 or email Larry.Mitchell@gctschools.net.

Gifted and Talented Programs and Family and Community Engagement Programs: Kem Drake 870-215-4460 or email at Kem.Drake@gctschools.net.

GCT Parent Center Coordinator: Rebecca Murry 870-215-4420 or email Rebecca.Murry@gctschools.net.

Commitment:



Under the Arkansas "[Ready for Learning](#)" DESE guidance, the Greene County Tech School District is committed to implementing strategies that focus on eight(8) key actions for student success which incorporate the following principles:

- Implementing a safe learning environment for students to return to School
- Planning for blended On-Site/Remote Learning and Virtually exclusive off site learning.
- Providing a guaranteed and viable Curriculum, and
- Creating and maintaining a student-focused approach to learning.

The GCT Ready to Learn plan is a living document that will be updated and revised to provide the best educational experience for students for the 2020-2021 school year in the midst of challenging circumstances. The Greene County Tech School District remains committed to:

“Investing in the Future....One Student at a Time”.