**GCISD 20-21 COVID-19 Health Plan**

The goal of the GCISD Health Plan policy is to keep teachers/staff/students/parents and the community safe and informed while allowing the school to operate with students and staff present in our buildings.

The Plan address four major components:

1. **NOTICE:**  GCISD’s Communication Plan for Parents and the Public
2. **PREVENT**:  GCISD’s Practices to Prevent the Virus from Entering the School
3. **RESPONSE**: GCISD’s Practices to Respond to a Lab-Confirmed Case Within the School District
4. **MITIGATE**: GCISD’s Practices to Reduce the Likelihood of the Spreading of the Virus Within the School
5. **NOTICE**: GCISD’s Communication Plan for Parents and the Public

A. *Location of COVID-19 information*

GCISD will post the district’s COVID-19 Health Plan at the following locations:

* The GCISD website:  https://www.gckats.net
* The GCISD phone app
* The GCISD Facebook and Twitter accounts
* Glasscock County All-Call (if needed)

*B. Contacts for COVID-19 concerns*

* The persons responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns are the GCISD administrators: Brian Hastings - Elementary Campus, Steve Cates - Secondary Campus, and Scott Bicknell – District

*C. Attendance and Enrollment*

* Given the SY 20-21 public health situation, student attendance may be earned through the delivery of remote learning
* Any parent may request that their student be offered remote learning
* GCISD will provide parents notice of their public education enrollment and attendance rights and responsibilities during the COVID-19 pandemic using a document published by TEA

II.       **PREVENT**: GCISD’s Practices to Prevent the Virus from Entering the School

*A. Screening for COVID-19 before campus access*

* GCISD teachers/staff/students will be required to self-screen for symptoms each day.  This will include teachers/staff/students taking their own temperature
* Visitors/Parents will check into the front offices and answer a three-question yes or no questionnaire before allowed anywhere on campus

*B. Individuals who have been lab-confirmed with COVID-19, but not been on-campus (teacher/staff/students/parents/visitor)*

* Teachers, staff, students, parents, and visitors must report to the district if they have been lab-confirmed positive with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until 14 days have passed and will need medical documentation to return to the district

*C. Identifying possible COVID-19 cases on-campus procedures*

* GCISD will immediately separate any student or staff member who show COVID-19 symptoms while at school
* GCISD will disinfect all areas of the school daily

III.        **RESPONSE**: GCISD’s Practices to Respond to a Lab-Confirmed Case Within the School District

* GCISD will notify the Department of Health Services
* During the normal school hours, if GCISD learns that a lab-confirmed case has been present in the school, then a notification will be sent out through the school app/Facebook/Twitter. At that point, if parents deem it necessary to immediately remove their child from the setting, they may do so
* The district will close up to 24 hours to deep clean the campuses.  It is possible that the district can secure the outside contracted company to deep clean without closing school for a day

IV.       **MITIGATE**: GCISD’s Practices to Reduce the Likelihood of the Spreading of the Virus Within the School

*A. Health & hygiene practices: general*

* GCISD will provide hand sanitizing stations at every entrance of the district
* GCISD will provide hand sanitizer in every classroom, which will be used frequently throughout the school day
* The district will teach students proper hygiene precautions to limit the spread of illness

*B. Health & hygiene practices: masks*

* Based on the governor’s executive order of July 2nd, 2020, due to the fact Glasscock County has less than 20 active lab-confirmed COVID-19 cases, students and residents are not required to wear masks.  However, students and staff are encouraged to wear masks if they choose to do so

*C. Student-Teacher groupings*

* In classrooms spaces that allow it, students will remain six feet away from other students

*D. Use of non-classroom spaces*

* GCISD extracurricular activities will follow the guidelines of UIL and of GCISD’s remote learning policies

*E. Transportation*

* All bus riders will use hand sanitizer when loading buses
* All buses will be disinfected after each use

*F. Visits to school*

* GCISD will restrict visits to the school to only those essential to school operations.  Per TEA law, all large indoor gatherings at the school will be canceled this year (Meet the Teacher, First Day of School inside the building, Report Card Night, Take your Grandparents/Parents to Lunch, Veterans Day Program, Thanksgiving Community Meal in the cafeteria)
* Excluding parent drop-off and pick-up, before visitors (parents) are allowed on campus, visitors MUST be screened according to state guidelines.  A three-question yes or no questionnaire will be administered prior to entering into the building.  If no is answered on any of the three questions, admittance to the school will be denied
1. *Staffing*
* Employees will follow guidelines set forth by the Families First Coronavirus Act (FFCRA or ACT)
* GCISD employees, like employees of any other organization, must continue to meet the expectations of their employers and their contractual obligations

GCISD 20-21 Remote Asynchronous Plan

Parent, Staff, and Community Information Release

Remote Asynchronous (or RA) is instruction method that does not require having the teacher and student engaged at the same time.  It is purely a **parental choice** on how their student is educated.  RA learning allows students to learn from instruction that is not necessarily being delivered in-person or in real-time.  This type of instruction may include various forms of digital and online learning, such as prerecorded video lessons, game-based learning tasks that students complete on their own, and pre-assigned work made available on paper.

RA learning is chosen on a full day (1st through 8th period) basis (ex. If parents/students choose to be here periods 1st through 3rd, they can not RA learning 4th, 5th, and 6th periods and then come back to campus for 7th and 8th period.) It is the responsibility of the district to ensure daily engagement of the student; either on campus for the entire day or remote learning for the entire day.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

**What should parents do if they decide to have their child enter into the RA program?**

Parents should contact the campus secretaries (Elementary: Melissa Schmitz; Secondary: Marissa Talamantes) by 8:30 am on the day the student is absent to confirm remote learning.  If the parent has not called by 8:30 am on third day absent, the campus secretaries will call to begin the RA process.  The RA Coordinator will make arrangements to gather classwork or other learning tools (computer or laptop) to be picked up by the parents by no later than 11:00 am.

**Can my student participate in extracurricular practices or competitions if they are in the RA program?** Participation in extracurricular activities will not be allowed on the days in which remote learning is chosen by parents.  The District shares all health concerns, as the parent does, for their student. Due to this health concern, students will not be allowed to participate in extracurricular practice, events, ride school transportation, and any school function for the day(s) that the parent has chosen for their child to remote learn.

**What happens if my student develops symptoms of illness this school year?**

If a student before going to school (or while at school) runs a fever of 100 degrees or higher or has other symptoms:

* GCISD will immediately separate any student or staff member who show COVID-19 symptoms while at school
* The student will go to RA learning for a minimum of 72 hours, as required by new CDC regulations
* On the fourth school day, if the fever or other symptoms have not returned, a decision will be made by the parent to return to school (if there are no doctor’s orders requiring more days at home) or remain in RA learning for two additional school days.  It should be noted, the school nurse may require the student to go to a physician before they return to school if symptoms persist at any time during the process
* On the fifth school day of RA learning, the parent will be contacted by the school to see if the student will continue RA learning or returns to on-campus instruction.  If the parent wishes to have the student remain in RA learning, the parent and campus principal will have a phone conference to determine the extension but with a minimum of 5 school days in the RA learning program
* After completion of the time determined in RA learning, the parent will be asked again whether the student will return to school or remain in RA learning and the parents and campus principal will discuss any further extension of time in the RA learning program

**What happens if a parent has health concerns for their child attending in-person instruction, but has no symptoms?**

If a student has no symptoms of illness, but the parent wishes to remote learn their student:

* The student will go to RA learning for a minimum of three school days
* On the fourth school day, if no symptoms, a decision will be made by the parent to return to school (if there are no doctor’s orders requiring more days at home) or remain in RA learning for two additional school days.  It should be noted, the school nurse may require the student to go to a physician before they return to school if no symptoms persist at any time during the process
* On the fifth school day of RA learning, the parent will be contacted by the school to see if the student will continue RA learning or returns to on-campus instruction.  If the parent wishes to have the student remain in RA learning, the parent and campus principal will have a phone conference to determine the extension but with a minimum of 5 school days in the RA learning program
* After completion of the time determined in RA learning, the parent will be asked again whether the student will return to school or remain in RA learning and the parents and campus principal will discuss any further extension of time in the RA learning program

**What happens if my student tests positive as a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case?**

If a student tests positive for COVID-19, the student will be required to RA learn for 14 days after testing.  Upon completion of the 14th day, the student may return to school, provided they have a doctor's release.

**What happens if a student or staff member has a lab-confirmed COVID-19 positive case (not my student)?**

At the present time, the district’s initial plan is to close up to 24 hours to deep clean the entire school premises.  It is possible that the district can secure the outside contracted company to deep clean without closing school for a day.  The district will follow the Department of Health Services (DHS) requirements for notification purposes.

**Who will be responsible for assigning my student’s work, and what format will be used?**

The teacher of record will assign and grade all RA work, which may be in various formats including:

* School email
* Google classroom
* Video recording of the lesson
* Assignments from scholastic website programs
* Worksheet packet

\*Photo evidence or other hands-free methods of work completion is required

**Will my student learn new material while they are remote learning?**

The answer is yes.  We will move forward and continue to try to push our students.  The focus is continuing to teach just like they are sitting in front of us.

**How is grading done for the RA learning program?**

Grading category weight for all GCISD students (RA or on-campus learning) during the 2020-2021 school year will be:

* Tests- 50% up to 60%
* Daily (or combination of other categories)- 50% down to 40%
* GCISD grading expectations will be followed the same for remote or on-campus instruction.

**What is the RA Coordinator and how can they help my student?**

The RA Coordinator will serve as the liaison between GCISD and the student/parent.  The RA Coordinator will be a certified teacher.  The RA Coordinator will be responsible for:

* Getting school work from the teacher of record to the student
* Getting school work from the student to the teacher of record
* Tutoring the student, if needed
* Monitoring any after school assessments
* Checking daily engagement with students
* Coordinating school lunch of qualifying students

**How will my student make up tests, quizzes, or assessments while they are in the RA learning program?**

If the student misses any formal assessment (aka tests) during the RA learning period, the RA Coordinator will assign a date and time to meet the student at the school to test after all students have gone home for the day (e.g. 4:00 pm).  It is the responsibility of the parent to provide transportation to and from school for RA testing.  If the student misses the assigned testing time, the grade will be recorded as a zero, unless an emergency occurs.  It is up to the discretion of the campus principal to accept emergency reasons for missing an assigned testing reservation.

**If my student has special learning needs, will those needs be met if they are in RA program?**

All RA learning students who have IEPs, 504 accommodations, GT, and ESL instruction will be addressed daily by the teacher or other appropriate school personnel, to ensure that the differentiated needs of student learning are provided.

**If I need to visit the school, what questions will I be asked before I am allowed to enter the building?**

When asking individuals if they have symptoms for COVID-19, school systems must only require the individual to provide a “Yes” or “No” to the overall statement that they are symptomatic for COVID-19, as opposed to asking the individual for specific symptom confirmation. School systems are not entitled to collect information during screening on the specific health information of an individual beyond that they are symptomatic. Once it is determined that individuals who responded “Yes” to any of these questions have met the criteria for re-entry, school systems must destroy those individuals’ responses.

GCISD Visitor’s COVID-19 Questionnaire:

1. Have you tested positive for a COVID-19 within the last 14 days?
2. Have you been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days?
3. Are you currently showing symptoms for COVID-19?

**How will the school mark students who are in the RA program (in PEIMS)?**

The student will be marked “RA” for state attendance accounting purposes and is considered to be present, provided the student is engaged in classwork every day the student remotely learns.

**If the district closes for a period of time due to COVID-19 health concerns, will the RA Coordinator be responsible for teaching all GCISD’s students in RA program?**

If the district closes for a period of time more than two days, it will be the duty of the teacher of record to remotely teach their students.