



GARY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

132 BOBCAT TRAIL
GARY, TEXAS, 75643
(903) 685-2291

July 24, 2020

Dear Bobcat Family:

We are excited to begin the new school year in just a few weeks. The District Leadership Team has worked diligently since the release of guidance from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to provide a Return to School Plan that meets all requirements and protocols for reopening our campus. Please understand that these plans may be adjusted as we receive further mandates, guidance, and clarification from TEA.

Gary ISD will open for the 2020-2021 school year as anticipated on August 12, 2020. We will offer two options of instructional delivery models for our students: On-Campus Learning or At-Home Learning. The At-Home Learning option is being provided for our families who have health and safety concerns with sending their children back to school. This option will require students to be viewable and remain logged into the system to participate in real-time with each class daily. More information about the learning options are provided in the Gary ISD Return to School Plan or the Gary ISD Return to School Plan Highlights, which are both linked at the end of this letter, to guide you on determining the best learning model for your child.

An online At-Home Learning request form, linked below, has been created to allow parents to request this instructional method contact-free without coming to the school. This method must be requested by July 29 at 5:00 pm to meet the two weeks before start of school deadline. If you choose At-Home Learning, your child will remain in this instructional model for the entire grading period. You may return to campus after the end of the first six weeks or choose to request an additional six weeks of At-Home Learning, if still offered and necessary. Parents that choose At-Home Learning will receive additional guidance and training in methods of implementation to ensure that student learning is successful and at the same high rigor as their peers. Students in At-Home Learning will be graded on the same assignments and with the same grading scale as their traditional On-Campus Learning peers. There will be no paper packets for the At-Home Learning due to the difficulty of the curriculum and TEA guidance for attendance.

If you are choosing on-campus learning you DO NOT need to complete the request form or attend an additional parent training. Gary ISD will comply with the health and safety recommendations established by the health department and TEA to ensure the long-term health and safety of students, staff, and our community. GISD health and safety protocols can be viewed in our Return to School Plan or Highlights documents. Please know our priority is the safety and well-being of our students and staff as we continue to focus on reopening school with COVID-19 safety measures in place. Please help us this year by not sending your child to school if they are sick, showing symptoms of COVID-19, or running a fever. Information about the process for returning to campus for these individuals that may show symptoms can be found on our Flowchart for COVID-19 which is linked at the end of this form.

We will continue to share information and updates with you as we receive them throughout the school year. We appreciate your support, understanding, and patience as we work through these details together. We are looking forward to beginning the 2020-2021 school year. Nothing will stop us from having the best year and we can't wait to see all of you back on-campus soon!

Thank you,

Todd Greer
Superintendent
tgreer@garyisd.net

Jason Woodfin
Assistant Superintendent
jwoodfin@garyisd.net

Chris Price
JH/HS Principal
cprice@garyisd.net

Brittney Davis
Elementary Principal
bdavis@garyisd.net

Please look at links on the following page



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Links for all Return to School Plan Documents

GARY ISD RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN LINK- <https://bit.ly/RTSPlan>

GARY ISD RETURN TO SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS LINK- <https://bit.ly/RTSHighlights>

GARY ISD SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE REQUEST LINK- <https://bit.ly/2021request>

GARY ISD FLOWCHART FOR COVID-19 LINK- <https://bit.ly/covidflowchart>