

Gasconade County R-II

Re-entry and Reopening 2020



INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to provide information to the community in preparing for and conducting an effective and successful re-entry into education services for summer programming and beyond in the Gasconade County R-II School District. **Due to the ever changing landscape of COVID-19 within our county and state with research developments, recommendations, and conditions surrounding the crisis, this document will likely change, be amended or added to.** GCR2 has worked in coordination with local, county, and state officials for the development of this plan.

We are committed to serving our communities. The District Mission statement reads: *The Gasconade County R-2 School District and each of its employees will inspire lifelong learners who are self-sufficient and ethical citizens.* In light of this mission we continue to respond to the needs of those we serve. While the current pandemic has presented challenges, the Gasconade County R-II School District is committed to meeting the needs of our students to the best of our ability to provide the greatest learning opportunities for success.

Gasconade County R-II School District Re-Entry Plans

Option 1

Full in-person
schedule + Health
precautions

Option 2

Interim Distance
Learning-
for students who are
diagnosed positive
or self-quarantined

Option 3

Distance Learning-
long-term distance
learning for students
during a school
closure or for
students choosing
this plan by
quarter/semester

*Must notify
building principal
between August 3-5

SUMMER SCHOOL

Goals

- ❖ To provide a rich, inviting, varied academic program for students K-12 through a traditional in-person approach with safety supports in place.
- ❖ To implement its next step in reopening school to better plan for the potential of what we may face on the first day of school.
- ❖ Summer programming is an opportunity for high school students to earn credit towards graduation, whether catching up or getting ahead and other students to receive enriching, remediation, accelerated, and transitional learning opportunities

Grades 9-12	Credit Recovery only	June 15-26
Grades K-12	Credit Recovery, credit bearing, enrichment	August 4-14

In addition to the general school handbook, the following protocols will be followed:

General Expectations Summer School

- ❖ All parents teach healthy habits to children before school begins including:
 - Educate your child on viruses and the signs of illness
 - Appropriateness of hand washing, good hygiene and social distancing
 - Teach your child how to wipe down surfaces at home, as they will also use disinfectant wipes on their desk at school
 - Teach your child how to appropriately wear a mask and when to use them (if desired)
- ❖ All teachers will reinforce healthy habits to children including:
 - Educate students on viruses and the signs of illnesses
 - Make time in the day for good hand washing
 - Have students maintain personal supplies versus communal supplies and if communal equipment is used they are disinfected after use
 - Have students wipe down desks regularly
 - Teach students how to maintain social distancing
- ❖ Measures to decrease students congregating in one location
 - Students will report straight to their classroom or designated area by the individual building upon entering the building no earlier than 7:45
 - Students will be required to stay with their assigned class and not co-mingle with other classrooms as much as possible
 - Restroom breaks will be scheduled by classroom, outside emergencies, with good hand washing after use
 - Students will sit at individual desks when available, otherwise will be distanced as much as possible at all times
 - In locations where students line up, teachers will help promote social distancing
- ❖ Minimizing Building Access- To minimize the need for people to be in the building other than necessary employees and students, the District requests the following:
 - Parents are encouraged to call ahead if they have a need to visit the school and if entering the building to limit their visit to the main office
 - Parents will not be allowed beyond the school entryway/main office, outside emergency situations
 - Parents will not be allowed to visit the classroom or eat lunch with their child, until further notice
 - Visitors, outside necessary employees providing student instruction and student services, will not be allowed in the building beyond the main office or designated venue, until further notice

HEALTH PROTOCOL

- ❖ Students and employees will adopt these hygiene measures:
 - All persons are required to wash hands or use hand sanitizer when they come to school, and throughout the school day
 - Encourage students to leave personal items at home, unless necessary
 - Encourage all persons to wash hands or use hand sanitizer after blowing nose, coughing or sneezing
 - Encourage classes and employees to create their own hand signals to replace shaking hands, hugging, or giving high-fives
 - Avoid the use of traditional water fountains, water bottle and refill fountains should be utilized

- ❖ Students and employees will be excluded from school if they test positive for COVID-19 or exhibit two or more of the symptoms of COVID-19 (other than fever) based on CDC guidance that is not otherwise explained, these include:
 - A fever greater than 100.4
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Chills
 - Repeated shaking with chills
 - Sore Throat
 - New loss of taste or smell

- ❖ ***Students (with assistance from parents) should self-screen prior to coming to school and/or expect to be screened before entering the school building.*** Those exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 without other obvious explanations will be prohibited from coming to school, and if they do come to school, they will be sent home immediately.

- ❖ Wearing of Masks and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - Any person is welcome to wear a mask or PPE in the school building
 - Parents who send their child with a mask should teach them appropriate usage
 - If a mask or other PPE is disruptive to the educational environment the building administration or teacher may call the parent/guardian to discuss strategies to ensure the safety of all students and the learning process

- ❖ Returning to School After Exclusion
 - Once a student or employee is excluded from the school environment, they may return only if they satisfy the recommendations of the current guidelines, which are subject to change. They may include:
 - **Untested-** Persons who have not received a test proving or disproving the presence of COVID-19 but have experienced symptoms consistent with COVID-19 may return when all three of the following conditions are met:
 - No fever for at least 48 hours (that is two full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fever- unless otherwise explained)
 - Other symptoms have improved
 - At least ten calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared

- **Tested-** Persons will follow the recommendations and up to date guidelines of the Health Department but currently persons who have tested positive for COVID-19 may return when all three of the following conditions are met:
 - No longer have a fever for at least 72 hours (without the use of medicine that reduces fever)
 - Other symptoms have improved
 - Received a negative test (may be required by the health department)
- Self-Quarantine
 - If the health department through contact tracing indicates a student or staff member has been in close contact (closer than six feet for more than 15 minutes or other mitigating circumstances) with a positive case will self-quarantine for 14 calendar days
- District Response to Exclusion from School or Self-Quarantine
 - As soon as the District becomes aware of a student or employee that may have COVID-19 or that has been excluded from school or recommended to self-quarantine, the custodial staff will be informed so that all desks, lockers, and workspaces of the person are thoroughly disinfected.
 - Separation While in School
 - Each school will have a room or space separate from the nurse's office where students or employees who may have COVID-19 or another communicable disease will wait to be evaluated or for pick-up. Students will be given a mask to wear. Only essential staff and students assigned to the room may enter. Strict social distancing is required, and staff must wear appropriate PPE. Students who are ill will be walked out of the building to their parents.

❖ **Confirmed Case of COVID-19 in the School Building**

- When there is confirmation that a person infected with COVID-19 was in a school building for a sustained time period under circumstances where transmission was susceptible to occur, the District will:
 - contact the local health department immediately
 - assist the local health department conduct their contact tracing and contacting those individuals who need to be directly notified or contacted during this process including staff, students, and parents
 - dependent upon circumstances the district may close all or partial parts of the building to thoroughly disinfect areas
 - The individual who tested positive will not be identified in communications to the school community at large but may need to be selectively identified for contact tracing by the health department
 - After school activities may be cancelled or rescheduled but will be determined on a case by case basis after consultation with local health officials

MASKS

❖ **Masks will not be required but are recommended for**

- Any individuals who are identified as higher risk
- During transportation on buses when social distancing cannot be guaranteed
- During large gatherings of students/staff where social distancing cannot be guaranteed
- At any time when a student/staff feels uncomfortable or the need to wear a mask

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONTACT TRACING AND QUARANTINE GUIDELINES

❖ Definitions

- CASE
 - Someone who has tested positive for COVID-19
- CONTACT
 - Someone who has had close prolonged contact with a case (closer than 6 feet for longer than 15 minutes)
- CONTACT TRACING
 - The process of tracing and monitoring contacts of cases
- ISOLATION
 - Cannot leave for at least 14 days from date of onset of symptoms and the last 3 must be symptom free
 - For someone who is ill (cannot leave isolation until symptom free for at least 72 hours without the assistance of medication)
- QUARANTINE
 - For someone who has had contact with someone that is ill (normally 14 days) from last known contact with case

❖ Contact Tracing

- Interview positive case
- Gather information about close contacts (closer than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) anyone the case may come into contact with for 2 days prior to the date of onset of symptoms
- Interview close contacts and place in quarantine
- Follow-up interviews with close contacts
- A negative test result does not change the quarantine practice of a close contact
- People who are secondary (those who are in contact with someone who has been in contact with a positive case) may be called “contacts of contacts” are not quarantined or interviewed until such time as the primary contact person tests positive or becomes symptomatic. An example would be Person A (tests positive), Person B shows no symptoms but, was in contact with Person A closer than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes is quarantined. Person C has been in contact with Person B then Person C is considered the secondary contact and no further action would be taken.

❖ School District Role

- Partner with and assist the County Health Department during contact tracing
- Implement strategies to reduce the spread of COVID-19
- Communicate information, when possible, remaining within state and federal guidelines

DAILY OPERATION

It should be noted altered restrictions may be made at any time based on changing and current information

General Expectations

- ❖ All parents teach healthy habits to children before school begins including:
 - Educate your child on viruses and the signs of illness
 - Appropriateness of hand washing, good hygiene and social distancing
 - Teach your child how to wipe down surfaces at home, as they will also use disinfectant wipes on their desk at school
 - Teach your child how to appropriately wear a mask and when to use them (if desired)

- ❖ All teachers will reinforce healthy habits to children including:
 - Educate students on viruses and the signs of illnesses
 - Make time in the day for good hand washing
 - Have students maintain personal supplies versus communal supplies and if communal equipment is used they are disinfected after use
 - Have students wipe down desks daily
 - Teach students how to maintain social distancing

- ❖ Measures to decrease students congregating in one location
 - Students will report straight to their classroom or designated location upon entering the building no earlier than 7:45 a.m.
 - Students will be required to stay with their assigned class and not co-mingle with other classrooms as much as possible
 - Restroom breaks will be scheduled by classroom, outside emergencies, with good hand washing after use
 - Students will sit at individual desks when available, otherwise will be distanced as much as possible at all times
 - In locations where students line up, teachers will help promote social distancing

- ❖ Minimizing Building Access- To minimize the need for people to be in the building other than necessary employees and students, the District requests the following:
 - Parents are encouraged to call ahead if they have a need to visit the school and if entering the building to limit their visit to the main office
 - Parents will not be allowed beyond the school entryway/main office, outside emergency situations
 - Parents will not be allowed to visit the classroom or eat lunch with their child
 - Visitors, outside necessary employees providing student instruction and student services, will not be allowed in the building beyond the main office or designated venue

BUILDING ACCESS

To minimize the need for people to be in the building other than necessary employees and students, the District will request the following

- ❖ Parents are encouraged to call ahead if they have a need to visit the school, outside of emergency situations
- ❖ Parents will not be allowed beyond the school entryway/main office, outside emergency situations
- ❖ Parents will not be allowed to visit the classroom or eat lunch with their child, until further notice
- ❖ Visitors, outside necessary employees providing student instruction and student services, will not be allowed in the building
- ❖ Outside groups and rental of facilities will be suspended until further notice

ARRIVAL

- ❖ It is the expectation of the District for students being dropped off by personal vehicle to remain in the drop off line. Parents should remain in their vehicle to promote social distancing.
- ❖ For our little Dutchmen and Dutchgirls entering pre-school and kindergarten we understand the importance and assurance you want to provide in getting your child to his/her classroom. However, given the current state of our pandemic we want to take all necessary precautions to keep our students and staff safe. We understand the first day of school and if you wish to walk your child to the front door then return to your vehicle we appreciate your cooperation in doing this safely.
- ❖ Dependent upon current conditions school buses may have varied designated drop off locations to minimize traffic flow through one central location
- ❖ Upon arrival students should sanitize their hands and proceed directly to their classroom or designated location determined by the individual school building.

DISMISSAL

- ❖ It is the expectation of the District for students picked up in the car pick up line to remain in the pick-up line. Parents should follow the individual buildings protocols which includes not entering the building.
- ❖ Depending upon current conditions buses may be located at various exits to limit student flow through various doors.

TRANSPORTATION

- ❖ All students will have assigned seats
- ❖ Family members will be allowed to sit together if requested
- ❖ All buses will be disinfected after every trip (including morning routes, afternoon routes, and trips)
- ❖ Students and drivers will be allowed to wear PPE including masks if desired

BREAKFAST/LUNCH

- ❖ Ensure children wash hands prior to eating.
- ❖ All surfaces will be disinfected prior to meals and immediately after meals
- ❖ Limit seating to practice social distancing as much possible which may include eating in various locations including the cafeteria, classroom, outside, and other designated venues
- ❖ Various products will be utilized to assist in reducing risk which may include disposable food trays, plates, and utensils.
- ❖ Nutrition staff will serve all food versus allowing students to ladle individual servings

CLASS STRUCTURE

- ❖ Precautions will be put into place to reduce the risk of potential transmissions of communicable diseases including COVID-19. This may include:
 - Students sitting at individual desks when available.
 - Separating students at tables as reasonably possible
 - Elimination of community resources when appropriate
 - Disinfecting resources often and after use
 - Keeping students in cohorts as much as possible eliminating co-mingling among various groups.
 - In locations where students line up, teachers will help promote social distancing
 - Disinfecting work stations and wiping down desks
 - Restroom breaks, outside of emergencies, scheduled by class

RECESS

- ❖ Different groups of children should not be on playground equipment at the same time.
- ❖ Children should utilize hand sanitizer or washing of hands prior to touching playground equipment and after touching equipment
- ❖ Some equipment may not be able to be used

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND OTHER LARGE GROUPS

- ❖ Full school in-door assemblies will not be conducted until further notice
- ❖ P.E. classes will be encouraged to go outside as the weather permits
- ❖ Large classes will limit close contact as much as possible and will break into small groups when appropriate to better social distance.

SCHOOL CLOSURE

- ❖ The Gasconade County R-II School District is committed to doing everything possible to stay open throughout the 2020-2021 school year. However, when dealing with a pandemic, situations can arise that may require school to close including:
 - When advised by the Governor or state and local health officials
 - Outbreak of multiple confirmed cases of COVID-19
 - Student absenteeism- when student absenteeism raises to the level where it is not economically or educationally feasible to keep school open
 - Teacher/staff absenteeism- When the number of staff available to supervise and instruct students drops below a safe and effective learning environment

DISTANCE LEARNING

- ❖ **Distance Learning- a method of instruction in which lectures and assignments are broadcast or classes are conducted by correspondence or over the internet, without the student's needing to be physically in attendance at school.**
- ❖ If distance learning will be utilized each building will have specific Distance Learning Guidelines (please see the separate Distance Learning Plan). General Distance Learning guidelines include:
 - Parents who wish to begin the school year through the Distance Learning model needs to contact their student's building principal between August 3rd-5th
 - Available for students in K-12 who may require distance learning due to extended absences
 - Students will be responsible for 5.7 hours of educational work daily
 - Assignments will be due at specified dates and times in order to receive credit/grades.
 - Active participation in course assignments and discussion is expected
 - Students may need to be available at specified times Monday-Friday for on-line lessons, lectures, and discussions.
 - Specific available courses will be found in each buildings Distance Learning Guidelines (Not all subjects/courses will be suitable or available for distance learning)
 - In the event a student does not complete assigned work, assessments, and projects by the due date for this work, he/she may be required to attend summer school, may lose credit, and may be retained or be required to retake a grade level or course.
 - Distance Learning will be taught by Gasconade County R-II Faculty
 - All Missouri Learning Standards will be taught for the grade level/course assigned.
 - All special education decisions will be made by the IEP team.
 - Students will be graded according to classroom expectations, mastery of standards, and syllabi expectations. Distance Learning assignments and assessments will affect grading and GPA.
 - Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) will begin if an extended school closure begins
 - AMI is mandated through state statute and new skills and standards will be taught during this period
 - All school board and building handbook policies will be adhered to including code of conduct, technology use agreements, and other specific requirements.
 - Additional AMI information can be found in the AMI Plan and Handbook
 - The district will adhere to all requirements presented in state statute 162.1250 RSMo unless waivers are granted by the Department of Education or legislative order.

Gasconade County R-2 Distance Learning Enrollment Application

1. Students Name _____
2. Students Email _____
3. Parent/Guardian _____
4. Address of Student _____

5. Do you have access to the internet? __Yes__ NO

6. Students Grade _____

7. I understand that by enrolling in the GCR2 Distance Learning Program I am expected to maintain regular attendance and my grades and successful completion are inclusive of regular attendance.

8. I understand all assignments, projects, and assessments must be completed by the assigned due dates.

9. By enrolling in GCR2 Distance Learning Program I agree to complete at least 5.7 hours of coursework daily and adhere to the set schedule for classes.

10. Elementary students will enroll in distance learning for a period of no less than one quarter. Middle and High School students will enroll in distance learning for a period of no less than one school semester.

11. I agree that I have received a copy of the Distance Learning Handbook. I understand all board, school handbooks, distance learning handbooks, technology, and school policies must be followed.

12. DISTANCE LEARNING

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 - Active participation in course assignments and discussion is expected

- Students may need to be available at specified times Monday-Friday for on-line lessons, lectures, and discussions.
- Specific available courses will be found in each buildings Distance Learning Guidelines (Not all subjects/courses will be suitable or available for distance learning)
- In the event a student does not complete assigned work, assessments, and projects by the due date for this work, he/she may be required to attend summer school, may lose credit, and may be retained or be required to retake a grade level or course.
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- Students will be graded according to classroom expectations, mastery of standards, and syllabi expectations. Distance Learning assignments and assessments will affect grading and GPA.
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- AMI is mandated through state statute and new skills and standards will be taught during this period
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X

Student

X

Parent

Self-Screening Protocol

- ❖ **The following questions and protocols should be conducted prior to students coming to school or staff coming to work:**
 - Do you have a new onset of any of the following not explained by another known condition (note: the CDC may update symptoms at any time). If the answers are “yes” to any of the screening questions, they should not report to work/school.
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Vomiting or diarrhea
 - Been in close contact in the past 2 weeks with an individual with a confirmed case of COVID-19
 - Take temperature and refrain from coming to work/school if temperature is 100.4 or greater
 - Follow health department guidelines if someone within the household is officially quarantined or has been confirmed positive of the COVID-19 virus

- ❖ While at school if any staff member or student is identified with any symptoms listed in the health screening
 - The staff member will be sent home immediately.
 - The student will be isolated until arrangements can be made for the child to be picked up by a parent or guardian
 - The staff/student will be advised to contact a healthcare provider if they exhibit symptoms or answered “yes” to any screening questions.