

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL...ISH



July 30 , 2020

Dear GMS Families,

I want to be one of the first to welcome you to the 2020-2021 school year at Georgetowne! I am very excited about this school year as we introduce a few major changes to the GMS building, as well as an adapted schedule that adheres to the current IDPH and ISBE guidelines. While the structure of the school year may look different than it has in the past, I can assure you that the GMS staff is ready to do their best to provide your child a wonderful experience at school. I appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we all work through new guidelines and conditions. It is also extremely important to stay flexible since things can always change. If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Tom Brown
Principal, GMS

- Following, I have included some of the new changes you will see this year at GMS!
 - A full list of the 20-21 Return to School plan has been shared by the Superintendent.
-

- **DAILY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:**

- Students will attend face-to-face instruction Monday-Friday, 7:45am-1:45pm. Remote learning instruction can be done at any point of the day or done synchronously as the class is being taught. However, students enrolled in remote learning **MUST** complete the Google Attendance Sheet daily to be counted as present. Students participating in remote learning will be allowed to return to face-to-face at the end of each quarter.

✓ CHANGES

● **GYM-**

- The GMS gym went through a total remodel over the summer. Floors were stripped, walls were painted, and lights replaced. This is truly a beautiful gymnasium!
- Locker rooms will not be used at this time.
- Students will no longer change for PE; however they will still need tennis shoes to participate in daily activities.
- As much as possible, students will be going outside for PE. This will allow them an extra opportunity to remove their face mask while maintaining social distancing.
- Students are encouraged to bring their own yoga mat for daily exercises.

● **WATER FOUNTAINS-**

- GMS has had 2 water bottle fillers installed and students are encouraged to bring individual water bottles to use throughout the day.
- Water fountains will not be available for use.

● **CHROMEBOOKS-**

- District 102 will be providing all students with their own chromebook, charging cable and carrying case. Students and parents will need to read and sign the user agreement and be familiar with the conditions of use.
- GMS will provide one set of earbuds for each student to keep and maintain.

✓ PROCEDURES

● **WELLNESS CHECKS-**

- Before entering the building, students will need to go through a health screening. They will be asked if they are having any symptoms associated with COVID 19, as well as an infrared temperature check.
- Throughout the day if a student exhibits any illness they will be screened in the office and placed in a safe environment to await pick-up.
- By sending your child to school, parents have certified that their child is symptom free.

● **HALLWAYS/PASSING PERIODS-**

- To assist with the flow of traffic, main floor hallways will be designated as one-way only traffic. The two front stairwells will also be designated as one way traffic. To minimize hallway traffic, there will be a staggered dismissal of students from classes.
- Students will still be assigned lockers, but the office will work to ensure distance between individual lockers.
- While moving through the hallways, students will need to maintain social distancing to the best of their ability under the conditions.

- Bathrooms will need to be limited to 3-4 students at a time with those waiting in line outside the bathroom with social distancing.
- Water fountains will NOT be available.

- **WEARING OF MASKS-**

- Students are required to wear a face mask throughout the school day. Students will be allowed to remove their mask when they are outside (while social distancing) and while eating and drinking. A lanyard will be provided to your student to use with their mask to keep it clean and ready to use.
- Remember wearing a mask protects YOU and keeps others around you SAFE.
- Students who do not follow these guidelines may face disciplinary action.

- **SOCIAL DISTANCING-**

- Students will need to practice safe social distancing while moving through different areas of the building.
- Classrooms have designated seating areas and work spaces for students during the day that meet this requirement.
- Due to a combined 6th grade/7th grade lunch period that would overcrowd the cafeteria, 6th grade students will eat in an alternate location when having lunch in the building.
- Students will need to refrain from all kinds of physical contact. This includes high fives, sharing food, and any other situation that would allow an individual to come in contact or close proximity to another student. Teachers will work diligently to supervise and correct students that violate this policy.

- **SANITATION-**

- Hygiene reminders have been placed throughout the building encouraging students to follow proper hygiene procedures.
- There will be a sanitation station located in the cafeteria, outside the gymnasium, and rm 227 to assist with hygiene.

- **RESOURCE CENTER (LIBRARY)**

- Students will check books out online using their chromebook. Miss Heruth will deliver books to students at a scheduled time. Students will keep their books in the provided baggie with their name and library card info on it.
- Books will be turned in to classroom bins where they will remain untouched to allow for quarantine. After 3 days they will be checked in and be available for check out again.