

\The Gilbert School Learning Models and Information 2020-2021

The Covid-19 pandemic has forced us to look at education like we have never before. Preparing students for success requires taking innovative, comprehensive approaches to meeting students' needs, such as rethinking the length and structure of the school day and year, so that students have the time they need to succeed and teachers have the time they need to collaborate and improve their practice. It means supporting innovative models that provide the services that students need; providing time for teachers to collaborate to meet academic challenges; creating environments that help all students be safe, healthy, and supported in their classrooms, schools, and communities; and greater opportunities to engage families in their childrens' education and strengthen the role of schools as centers of communities.

Governor Ned Lamont and Miguel Cardona (State of Connecticut Commissioner of Education) have asked us to come up with three school reopening plans. One, with every student in our school, one a hybrid/ blended approach, and one a fully distance learning model. They have also given parents the choice to send their children to school or have them learn from a distance. We at The Gilbert School believe at this time the two safest plans are to have students learn through a hybrid-blended learning environment with fewer students in the building at one time, and/or distance learning. We have outlined the two models below.

If you click on the link below you will see the *Hybrid Model Schedule* and the *Distance Learning Model Schedule should we need to go to full distance learning*.

At this moment, school will start on September 8, 2020 for students in grades 7-12 in the hybrid learning model. We have included the full distance learning model in case we need to close our school for any period of time. Please note that this plan is subject to change.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1d7R0mTouggF9GZSPRHZgGs0AiOYY61yJhvQD4omq8U/edit>

We have 3 groups of students

Group A- Students with last names that begin with A-L who chose to learn in the school building. (We will keep family members who live together in the same household but have different last names together for cohorting purposes)

Group B- Students with last names that begin with M-Z who chose to learn in the school building. (We will keep family members who live together with different last names together for cohorting purposes)

Group C- Students who choose to learn ONLY through distance learning. (These students will NOT be able to participate in sports or on campus activities if applicable)

Families must notify The Gilbert School by August 28th if you are choosing to exclusively partake in distance learning, group C. Otherwise it will be assumed students will be attending hybrid learning and will be a member of group A or group B. This commitment will be in effect immediately and may not be changed until the end of quarter 1. The Gilbert School reserves the right to change the learning models at any time in order to best meet State and health guidelines, and Governor Lamont's executive orders.

Group A students will be taught in The Gilbert School building Monday and Tuesday of each week. Groups B & C will learn from home, but log in to participate each period. (If students in groups B & C do NOT log into the class they will be given an unexcused absence unless medically excused.)

Group B students will be taught in The Gilbert School building Thursday and Friday of each week. Groups A & C will learn from home, but log in to participate each period. (If students in groups A & C do NOT log into the class they will be given an unexcused absence unless medically excused.)

Group C students will be in class sessions online, Monday through Friday. They will follow Cohort A and B Schedules on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. On Wednesday they will attend virtual 30 minute classes periods 1-8 with their teachers to give them an opportunity to ask questions/assistance from teachers. (If group C does not log into each class, they will be given an unexcused absence unless medically excused) Groups A & B will have office hours and support available to them from 2:00- 2:46 pm on Wednesdays. We will reevaluate Wednesday hours within the first month of school.

****The school building will be closed on Wednesdays for a deep cleaning. All faculty, staff and students will be doing distance learning from home on Wednesdays. Faculty and staff will also be participating in professional development and meetings remotely.***

Class dismissal will be staggered from one period to the next to lessen the number of students in the hallways at a time. There will be monitors in the hallways as well as posters and floor markings to remind students to practice social distancing.

Schedule for the day student expectations:

7:30-7:45 *Students will not be permitted to enter the school building until 7:30 a.m. A grab and go breakfast will be given to students at the ***end of the school day*** to be eaten at home ***the following day***. Upon entering the school building students must go directly to their first period class; no congregating will be allowed in the building. Students must be in their first period class by 7:45 a.m. Students arriving to school before 7:30 must remain outside and socially distant.

Students will practice social distancing at all times.

7:45-9:10 1st/2nd Period Classes: If students in grades 9-12 have study halls for periods 1 or 2, they do not need to come to school for that period (with parental permission).

9:16-10:41 3rd/4th Period Class (Mask Break)

Students will enter the cafeteria from the main stairwell down to the cafeteria and exit (weather permitting) out the doors in the back of the cafeteria and walk outside to the front of the building. All students will eat their lunch at individual desks in the cafe 6 feet apart. Students will wear their masks until they sit at their desk to eat lunch. There will be lunch monitors in the cafe. All desks will be cleaned between lunch shifts. Handwashing and hand sanitizing stations will be available in the cafeteria.

LUNCH (No Masks)

1st - 11:00-11:25-----Middle School Lunch

2nd - 11:30-11:55.....High School Lunch

3rd - 12:00-12:25.....High School Lunch

10:47-12:44 5th/6th Period Class

If students in grades 9-12 have study halls for periods 7 or 8, they may be dismissed from school for that period (with parental permission).

12:51-2:16 7th/8th Period Class

Student Expectations

- Whether students are learning in the school building or at home, students are expected to attend ALL classes. (**While online at home, being “present” means**

online in the class google meet with the camera on to take attendance and then video may be off after until the end of the class to check in once again).

- Expectations will be high and ALL students are expected to hand in all assignments completed on time.
- Students will be graded on a 100 point scale
- Test and quizzes will be given both online and in person (if applicable)
- Attendance will be taken daily for ALL students
- Teachers will be available for support
- Athletics and clubs/activities participation will be subject to change due to health and safety recommendations
- Students are expected to adhere to ALL health and safety regulations: wearing masks, social distancing, frequently washing hands and using hand sanitizer. Not adhering to these guidelines will result in consequences.
- Students will **NOT** be allowed to use their lockers; students should bring all materials for the day in a backpack or appropriate bag.
- When possible, please have your student use plastic folders, notebooks etc. which can be easily wiped clean.
- Students should **NOT** share ANY items with other students (pens, pencils, drinks, calculators, books, etc..)
- Water fountains will be turned off except those which fill water bottles.
- Students should bring reusable water bottles to stay hydrated during the day.

Meetings: At this time ALL parent meetings, 504, PPT's will be remote, unless otherwise informed by an administrator.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the school and speak to the Principal Mrs. Sojka, High School Associate Principal Ms. Lewis and Middle School Associate Principal Mrs. Hurley at 860-379-8521.