

Handbook Addendum

COVID-19 Pandemic Adjustments to Student Handbook

Elementary:

- COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death. According to the Health Department, it is easily spread from person to person and the best way to prevent COVID-19 is to avoid being exposed to the virus. Per the Health Departments guidance for reopening schools, the District is implementing the following measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 at school:
 1. Students will be reminded often to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use hand sanitizer when soap and water are not readily available. The District will provide hand sanitizer.
 2. Students will be reminded to cover their mouths when coughing or sneezing.
 3. Students will be expected to “social distance” (6 feet apart) whenever possible.
 4. Students will be required to wear cloth face coverings or masks that fully covers the mouth and nose whenever they are outside of the classroom, and whenever they are in close proximity of another person.
- Students who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 while at school will be separated from the class and moved to a designated area. Adult supervision will be provided at all times. A parent/guardian will immediately come and pick the student up from school. Students who have symptoms related to COVID-19 will be expected to follow the local health department guidelines, and cannot return to school until he/she is symptom free for three full days (72 hours) without the use of medications or other symptom-altering medicine.
- Students who test positive for COVID-19, may return to school when:
 1. They self-quarantine for 14 days without symptoms
 2. Or have a doctor’s note stating that they can return to school
 3. Or the student receives a negative COVID-19 test
- In case of illness and injury, parents must keep their child's school informed with emergency phone numbers and any changes that might occur. The school will notify the parent/guardian of any illness or injury that occurs at school. No student will be permitted to attend school if he or she has a fever, cough, respiratory illness, or diarrhea. The decision shall be made by the administration.
- Parents must notify the school if their child has any serious communicable disease: COVID-19, Hepatitis B, AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), ARC (Aids Related Complex), herpes, or other like diseases that may present potentially serious health problems for those who come in contact with the disease or the disease carrier.
- In-School Suspensions will not be utilized as a disciplinary method.
- Failure to follow the above detailed mask requirement, will be treated as a Dress Code violation.

Middle/High School:

- COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death. According to the Health Department, it is easily spread from person to person and the best way to prevent COVID-19 is to avoid being exposed to the virus. Per the Health Departments guidance for reopening schools, the District is implementing the following measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 at school:
 1. Students will be reminded often to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or use hand sanitizer when soap and water are not readily available. The District will provide hand sanitizer.
 2. Students will be reminded to cover their mouths when coughing or sneezing.
 3. Students will be expected to “social distance” (6 feet apart) whenever possible.
 4. Students will be required to wear cloth face coverings or masks that fully covers the mouth and nose at all times. The only exception will be when eating, drinking, and when playing a band instrument that requires the use of one’s mouth.
- Students who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 while at school will be separated from the class and moved to a designated area. Adult supervision will be provided at all times. A parent/guardian will immediately come and pick the student up from school. Students who have symptoms related to COVID-19 will be expected to follow the local health department guidelines, and cannot return to school until he/she is symptom free for three full days (72 hours) without the use of medications or other symptom-altering medicine.
- Students who test positive for COVID-19, may return to school when:
 1. They self-quarantine for 14 days without symptoms
 2. Or have a doctor’s note stating that they can return to school
 3. Or the student receives a negative COVID-19 test
- In case of illness and injury, parents must keep their child's school informed with emergency phone numbers and any changes that might occur. The school will notify the parent/guardian of any illness or injury that occurs at school. No student will be permitted to attend school if he or she has a fever, cough, respiratory illness, or diarrhea. The decision shall be made by the administration.
- Parents must notify the school if their child has any serious communicable disease: COVID-19, Hepatitis B, AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), ARC (Aids Related Complex), herpes, or other like diseases that may present potentially serious health problems for those who come in contact with the disease or the disease carrier.
- Because the Career Technical Center is utilizing a hybrid schedule, students who are attending the Career Technical Center will be allowed to drive to the Career Technical Center. Furthermore, Career Technical Center students will not be allowed to remain on school grounds in the afternoon when their Career Technical Center classes are not in session.
- Given that student attendance will be fluid this school year, the Attendance Policy is hereby set aside and will not be implemented. For accountability purposes, it is highly encouraged that parents still call the school when their student is absent.
- In-School Suspensions will not be utilized as a disciplinary method.
- Failure to follow the above detailed mask requirement, will be treated as a Dress Code violation.

COVID-19 School Health Screening Agreement

Instructions for Parents and/or Guardians

For the health and safety of our students, the local Health Department requires students be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 before entering the school. Due to the interruption this would cause to the educational process if screening was attempted prior to allowing student to enter the school, the Health Department does not recommend that this screenings be conducted by the schools.

Therefore, we ask that parents/guardians complete the steps of the student screening below, prior to sending your child to school or any school activities. We ask that you complete the form below indicating your understanding and agreement to perform symptom screenings on your child:

By signing this form, I am committing to screening my child daily for the 2020-2021 school year, unless otherwise directed. I also understand that it is my responsibility to call Gobles Public Schools as soon as possible to let them know if my child is not going to school for potential COVID-19 symptoms.

I commit to screening my child _____ for COVID-19 symptoms and exposure.

Parent(s)/ Guardian(s) Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student Screening

Before leaving for school, please make sure of the following screening. If your child has any of the following symptoms, that indicates a possible illness that may decrease the student's ability to learn and put them at risk for spreading illness to others.

Symptoms

- Temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher when taken by mouth
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

Close Contact/Potential Exposure

In the past 14 days has your child:

- Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19: OR
- Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with person under quarantine for possible exposure to COVID-19; OR
- Had a travel history

If the answer is **YES** to any of the **symptom** questions, keep your child(ren) home from school.

If the answer is **YES** to any symptoms question and **YES** to any close contact/potential exposure question, call the school as soon as possible to let them know the reason your child(ren) won't be there today. Call your healthcare provider right away. If you don't have one or cannot be seen, go to www.mi.gov/coronavirustest or call 2-1-1 to find a location to have your child(ren) tested for COVID-19.

If the answer is **YES** to any of the symptom questions, but **NO** to any close contact/potential exposure questions, your student may return based on the guidance for their symptoms (see "[Managing Communicable Diseases in Schools](#)"):

- Fever: at least 24 hours have passed with no fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications
- Sore throat: improvement (if strep throat: do not return until at least 2 doses of antibiotic have been taken);
- Cough/Shortness of breath: improvement
- Diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal pain: no diarrhea or vomiting for 24 hours
- Severe headache: improvement