Below are the main points and details of Gilmore City-Bradgate’s Reopening Plan for beginning school on August 24, 2020. The full plan can be found on our website at www.gCBSchools.org. A reminder that this information can change at any time due to an increase in COVID-19 numbers and/or input from the Department of Education, Iowa Public Health, and our local county public health agencies. Changes will be communicated out via email from the district, on our school’s Facebook page (www.facebook.com/GCBHome) and put on our website. Please make sure your correct email is on file with the school office.

1. GC-B will plan on beginning school for the PreK-12 grades on Monday, August 24, 2020 face to face. Preschool, be watching for information from our preschool team (Miss Dani, Miss Haley, and Mrs. Nickman) on when you will start. The survey that was conducted with our stakeholders resulted in 72% of our families and staff wanting to start face to face.

2. Cloth face coverings (masks) are highly recommended to be worn by all staff and students. This is in accordance with the CDC guidance for reopening schools. If your child chooses to wear a cloth face covering, they must be able to reliably wear, remove, and handle masks throughout the day. Parents should educate children at home regarding proper use of face coverings if one is choosing to wear it.

3. iPads will be sent home with our students in grades K-6th the first day of school. These are expected to go back and forth between school and home every day, all year. Please treat them with care! The iPads will be used in case we need to switch from face to face learning to hybrid or continuous online learning models.

4. If we cannot hold school face to face, the hybrid and continuous learning models are required. This means your student is responsible for turning in assignments to be graded to his/her teachers. The online learning platforms that we will be using are: Google Classroom, Zoom, Seesaw, and Acellus. You will have more details from your child’s teacher regarding classroom expectations using these learning platforms.

5. Hybrid model specifics---Governor Reynolds has asked schools for face-to-face learning to be at least 50% in a two week period. Because of this proclamation, we will use a 6 day schedule rotation when we have to limit our numbers in the building. We will have Group A and Group B. We will inform you of what group your child will be in after registration is completed. Group A will attend on Days 1, 3, & 5. Group B will attend on Days 2, 4, & 6. Families will be grouped together so they are able to attend school on the same days and be at home on the same days. When the students are not in face to face class, they will need to be doing activities online or packets at home.

6. Continuous Learning specifics---We will use our online learning platforms in this model because this means you will be learning from home and not attending face to face. Work that is assigned during this time is required to be turned in and graded.

7. Random temperature checks will be taken throughout the day for staff and students and when the student/staff is showing signs or symptoms of illness. The temperature recommendations and guidelines from the CDC will be followed regarding COVID-19.

8. Breakfast and lunch will have physically distance seating in the lunchroom and classrooms. Students will not be allowed to touch their silverware and tray until all food has been put on it by the cooks. Students bringing their own lunch will need to store it in their locker. The refrigerator and microwave in the cafeteria will no longer be in use for the time being.
9. All staff and administrators are taking the Health and Training Module from the AEA. This is to ensure all staff have been trained in proper safety with COVID-19.

10. All students in grades Preschool-6th will be taught proper handwashing, use of hand sanitizer, sneezing, blowing their nose, coughing, and healthy habits throughout the first week of school. These will be revisited throughout the year as needed. Hand sanitizer will be available in every classroom.

11. Limiting people in and out of the building---parents & visitors----Doors will be locked all day. Parents, please drop your child off at the front door by the office. If they are eating breakfast, please drop them off at the daycare entrance. We ask that you don’t come into the building for the time being. This is to limit germs and close interaction between people. If you need to come in for some reason, please call the office and let us know.

12. Transportation---Students will need to sit every other seat on the bus. We ask that siblings sit with each other in the same seat if there is not room to sit in every other seat. Cloth face coverings are highly recommended to be worn on the bus since we cannot ensure proper physical distancing will be maintained at all times.

13. Students will be physically distanced in the hallways as much as possible during passing times.

14. No outside snacks/treats from home will be allowed in the building to share with others.

We know this year will not be normal and at times possibly even confusing. Please trust that the decisions made are done so with the best knowledge we have at the time. Things change so quickly and at times it is hard to keep up and understand the information that is given to us. Our thoughts and attitudes, staying positive, communicating, and working together will continue to get us through each day. The GC-B staff asks for patience and understanding from you and your students throughout this year. Please feel free to ask for clarification on anything you may have questions about.

Thank you,
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