



Granite City School District Return to Learn Plan 2020-2021

The mission of the Granite City School District is to do whatever it takes to ensure all students realize their potential. We are still mindful of that mission, even with the changes to our educational offerings necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. As we prepare for the 2020-2021 school year, our goals remain focused on providing all students access to a broad range of high-quality educational opportunities and developing meaningful student learning experiences that hold higher-level thinking, creativity and content mastery.

Students will start the school year with both online coursework and remote learning.

Remote Online differs significantly from the Spring Remote Learning Plan that was adopted in March 2020 as a result of emergency school closures.

- Communication between the district, schools, parents/guardians, and students will be consistent, clear, and presented in a timely manner
- Communication will be presented in multiple modalities (Skyward phone, text & email, posted on website and Facebook page.) to ensure every family receives the information.
- Students will be formatively and summatively assessed and report cards given quarterly.
- 3-12 Students will be responsible to attend online face to face (synchronous) learning or access recorded lessons (asynchronous) learning
- Students will turn in assigned work by the listed due date, or the end of the week if done on paper for the PreK-2 elementary students.
- Teachers will be available to answer questions that parents or students might have during set office hours 9:00 am -2:00 pm.
- Counselors, School Psychologists, Speech Therapists, Social Workers, Physical and Occupational Therapists and School Nurses will be available to parents and students during set hours of 9:00 am -2:00pm.
- Google Classroom/Google Meets will be the universal remote learning platform
- Supplementary websites can/will be linked by teachers to enhance their Google Classroom
- Teachers will be trained on how to use Google Classroom/Google Meets
- Parents will be provided with an online training on how to use Google Classroom/Google Meets

Granite City continues to offer high-quality educational opportunities to students throughout the district. Our teachers have been provided laptop computers, and will also be receiving technology training prior to the start of school August 24th. This training is designed to assist teachers in building quality, interactive, engaging lessons.

Grades PreK-2

PreK - 2nd grade will be offered learning packets that will also include instructional items. Chromebooks for students in kindergarten through second grade were ordered in the spring and are expected to arrive by late October.

Delivery and collection of learning packets or other learning materials will be via the school bus services at respective bus stops or at neighborhood schools

Teachers will provide:

- Regular teacher interaction with your child including direct instruction, small-group facilitation, individual conferencing and intervention support through on-line communication, via email, or telephone.
- Clear, consistent course navigation and organization of learning materials that encourage student independence.
- Teachers are assigned to specific sections of students, just as in regular classrooms. They will be attentive to student needs, provide consistent student interaction and communicate with parents when students are not participating
- Grading practices that initially focus on review, assessment of current skill level, and are focused on core subject areas: English, Reading, & Math. Other subjects will be included within the core subject curriculums.

Grades 3-6

Teachers will provide:

An interactive Platform in grades 3-6 will be Google Classroom and programming will include a focus on the following:

- Regular teacher interaction with your child including direct instruction, small-group facilitation, individual conferencing and intervention support through on-line communication, via email, or telephone.
- Teachers are assigned to specific sections of students, just as in regular classrooms. They will be attentive to student needs, provide consistent student interaction and communicate with parents when students are not participating.
- Activities that engage and support interaction with materials both on and offline in a flexible environment.

- Clear, consistent course navigation and organization of learning materials that encourage student independence.
- Student access to a Google Classroom that will include a number of resources and digital tools including research databases, digital textbooks, supplemental learning software that supports the creation of original content to demonstrate learning.
- Use both Formative and summative assessments that encourage research and original thinking.
- Grading practices that initially focus on review, assessment of current skill level, and are focused on core subject areas: English, Reading, & Math. Other subjects will be included within the core subject curriculums.
- Class sizes are consistent with those of a seated classroom because the teacher's expectations for student feedback and communication are equivalent
- Special education students may use either a Chromebook or iPad depending upon their ability level.

Grades 7-12

Students in grades 7-12 will access their learning through the Google Classroom platform per district-provided Chromebooks

Teachers will provide:

Each secondary course will have a dedicated online teacher who is certified to teach the content. The teacher will be available to answer student questions, conduct individual instructional support and re-teach via Google Meets as students need it. Teachers will respond to student requests in a timely manner. All course options will be available as previously listed for students.

- Regular live lessons for each course outlining the instruction for the day, addressing questions or re-teaching points, and explaining assignments
- Daily, regularly scheduled open office hours
- Timely feedback on all assignments and projects
- Regular phone calls and emails to families along with support to get students who have fallen behind back on track.
- Encourage peer-peer communication and support cooperative learning
- Maintain classroom customs and norms as much as possible
- Academic timelines aligned to those of seated courses for quarter start and end dates, grading and reporting and course completion.

Student Expectations:

Students enrolled in online coursework can expect:

- Log in to classes at specific times
- Complete assignments in a timely manner (grades count)
- Ask questions when unsure of assignment or how to utilize the technology
- Access recorded lessons to review information

- Participate in live instruction in a constructive and respectful manner
- The opportunity to engage in live instruction with their teachers via Google Meets all five days of the school week. Live lessons will also be recorded and posted to Google Classroom so that students who are not able to attend at the specific time the teacher is on will have access to the lessons for later viewing.
- A minimum of 4.5 hours of work each day in the online environment. Much of it will be asynchronous (non-live instruction), so there is some flexibility on when that work will be completed.

All District Supports

Special Education Information:

- Individualized Remote Learning Plans will be created as IEPs come due, in addition to updating the IEP
- Any IEP meetings scheduled outside of the instructional day will need administrator approval
- Academic and support services (speech, social work, etc) will be provided remotely.
- Physical therapy and occupational therapy will be done in person at a single location on scheduled days and times
- Transportation to Physical/Occupational therapy will be provided by bus or parent
- Teachers will be trained on Google Classroom/Google Meets
- Paraprofessionals will be trained on how to support teachers and students in a remote setting
- Paraprofessionals can access the online Google Classroom training
- Families will be provided with a list of online and in person resources to support both the parents/guardians and their students
- Evaluations may be performed either remotely or in person. This will need to be decided on a case by case basis to determine whether the reliability and validity of the testing results will be negatively impacted.
- Accommodations, assistive technology, and accessible educational materials will be provided and reevaluated frequently to help ensure student access to the curriculum.
- Transition services that partner with outside agencies and include services such as job coaching and in-person employment experience opportunities will need to follow COVID-19 rules and be carefully coordinated with input from all stakeholders.

Social/Emotional Support:

The GCSO9 teachers will provide a COVID CARES Support team that will provide additional assistance and support to students throughout the remote learning process. This CARES team will consist of district teachers, social workers, coaches, school psychologists and administrators who will all work towards providing academic, social/emotional, and other support as needed to students requiring extra contact to help them succeed in this learning environment.

Grading and Attendance:

- Grading is a result of the documentation of ongoing assessment of student performance
- Formative assessments and summative assessments should be completed as assigned
- Grading and assessment are directly related to academic student growth
- Assessments, including, ISEL, Universal screener K-12 (STAR), and I-Ready will be used to establish benchmarks for student placement and report cards for different grade levels. [satisfactory, needs improvement, letter grades]
- Progress reports for IEPs will continue as usual
- Grades K-4: 1st quarter will focus on determining learning regression and recoupment
- Grades PreK-4 will be assigned Satisfactory and Needs Improvement ratings on report cards for first quarter
- Student attendance grades 7-12 will per class log in.
- Students attendance in grades 3-6 will be a daily log in.
- Students attendance for grades PreK-2 will be through teacher to student contact via email, phone, or other means.

Food Service:

Breakfast and lunch will be provided on **Monday's (Monday and Tuesday meals) and Wednesday's (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday meals)**. This will be done through regular school district bus routes. The Granite City School District has partnered with the TWIGS program and they will have locations throughout Granite City in addition to school district bus routes where they will be set up to provide meals to ensure we reach as many students as possible.