



Geyserville New Tech Academy

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July 23, 2020

Dear Geyserville Families,

First and foremost we hope your family is healthy and safe. Please know that we greatly miss our students and hope to get back to some form of normalcy soon.

We have been working tirelessly to develop a comprehensive and rigorous program for the upcoming school year including:

- Hybrid Model - students would receive instruction at school two days per week and distance learning three days per week.
- Distance Learning Model - students would receive instruction virtually five days per week.

However, due to the current COVID-19 transmission rates in Sonoma County and being on the State Watch List, we will be recommending to the Board of Trustees that we move to a full Distance Learning Model to start the 2020/2021 school year. Please know that this decision did not come easily. The health and safety of our students, staff and families is the most important consideration at all times. At this point in time, the duration of Distance Learning is not yet determined, but it is our hope to return to in-person/at school learning as soon as it is deemed safe for our students and staff.

Flexibility is key

The Geyserville Unified Return To School Plan (RTSP) will be presented at a special Board Meeting, Wednesday July 29 at 6:00 pm and give our community time for public comment. Please check our District website for more information. The RTSP is designed to “pivot” depending on where our County Health Department says we are regarding the coronavirus, COVID-19. We understand that there are hundreds of different family and staff situations, and countless concerns about either returning to school or learning from home. Working together with our educational community on the RTSP, and within the limitations of living in this pandemic, we have planned for options for school in 2020-21:

Proposed Distance Learning Model (5 days at home):

The Distance Learning Model is designed to provide the same educational experience as the hybrid model but with no in-person instruction at school.

- All teaching will be done virtually (on a computer/Chromebook) and class assignments will be provided via site specific online platforms.
- Students will have virtual classes with their teachers every day except for Wednesdays, when they will have a virtual check-in with their teacher or other support staff.



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Proposed Hybrid Model (2 days at school, 3 days at home):

The hybrid model allows students to return to their school in-person two days per week. This option will be available only if it's safe.

- Students will be assigned to one of the two cohorts (A or B) attending school either Monday and Tuesday **OR** Thursday and Friday.
- On the three days they are not in school, they learn from home (or child care).
- On Wednesdays, all students will have a virtual check-in with their teacher or other support staff and the schools will be cleaned between cohorts.
- Teachers will be focusing on the essential standards of the California Standards and assessing students regularly to determine if any academic intervention is needed.
- As we schedule students into cohorts, we will be mindful to keep family members in the same cohort so they will be attending school on the same days.
- **NOTE: If COVID-19 conditions warrant school closures, students in the Hybrid model will “pivot” to Distance Learning**

For many families, these models will create a hardship because parents need to work and need a place for their children to be safe while they are working. We are working together with Boys and Girls Club to provide some of this support during the hybrid model.

We are entering this new school year in a much different way than ever before. We ask for your continued patience as we adjust and modify the structure of these models to ensure your student will be engaging with school after being away for so long. We will continue to provide regular updates, in emails, on our website, www.gusd.com/COVID-19 and on social media.

If you have any questions, please contact the District Office at 857-3592.

Take care,

Deborah Bertolucci

Nyla Quintana-Sturgis

Superintendent/GNTA Principal

GES Principal