Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Regarding the COVID-19 Related School Closure for the 2019-20 School Year

UPDATED: April 21, 2020

Many details are currently being worked out and we will update this FAQ document as we learn more in the days and weeks ahead. Thank you for your understanding and patience during this unprecedented time.

If you have questions that are not found on this document, each building listed below can be contacted on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Central Office</th>
<th>Gaylord High School</th>
<th>Gaylord Middle School</th>
<th>Gaylord Intermediate School</th>
<th>North Ohio Elementary School</th>
<th>South Maple Elementary School</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>989-705-3080</td>
<td>989-731-0969</td>
<td>989-731-0848</td>
<td>989-731-0856</td>
<td>989-731-2648</td>
<td>989-731-0648</td>
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Are WiFi hotspots available?

GCS has created new WiFi access named: Distance Learning. The connection is open and does not require a password. It has Internet only access and GHS student level content filtering. Wireless access is generally available about 50-100 feet from GCS buildings including the GHS junior parking lot, the GIS north parking lot, the GIS South parking lot, the front parking lots at NOE and SME near the classrooms, the GMS teacher parking lot, and the Early College north and east parking lots. Some areas have a better signal than others. Signal strength will be best with a laptop and slightly less with a tablet. If users are experiencing low signal quality, they should reposition their vehicle and/or roll down the window. Wireless access is available from 7:00AM to 10:00PM daily.

If you cannot make it to one of the GCS school building parking lots, please see other options below. Keep in mind the signal will be better the closer you are to the buildings.

* EFree Church: SSID- EFREE PUBLIC
* Otsego County Library: SSID- Library WiFi
* Otsego Lake Township: OLT.Guest Password: OLTres17
How does my student receive a work permit?

Option 1: Call the GCS Board of Education Office (989-705-3080) on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between the hours of 8am and 12pm to request a work permit.

Option 2: Visit the GCS website and submit a request via the online contact form (GCS Contact Form). Provide the personal information requested, check the box for “Work Permit” and in the “Comments” box, please enter the following:

- Student Date of Birth
- Student Mailing Address

Once your information is received, an age-appropriate work permit will be mailed to you with complete processing instructions.

When is the last day of school?

The last day of school will be June 10, 2020.

I am new to the area and would like to enroll my student. How do I go about doing that?

If you are coming from another district that is providing online education, please continue to remain enrolled at that school through the end of this school year. If you are not currently enrolled in an online program, please contact the appropriate building for instructions. GCS will be providing details regarding 2020-21 school year enrollment at a later date.

How will we get our lunch money back?

Lunch money will be maintained in student accounts until the 2020-21 school year. Funds from senior accounts can be moved to sibling accounts. Individuals leaving the district or requesting reimbursement for any other reason are to contact Food Service Director Sandy Matelski at 989-705-3040 or matelskis@gaylord.k12.mi.us.

How is the Early College program affected?

All early college classes resumed on April 6th via Brightspace. Sophomores intending on taking SD 125 this summer will be contacted as soon as the course dates are finalized.
Can I collect my child’s personal belongings from the school building?

During the “Stay Home, Stay Safe” order, we will not be accessing student belongings. Each school is working on a plan to most efficiently allow parents and/or students to access personal belongings, as this looks different at each level. This plan will be communicated to parents once it is finalized. Please know that during the first couple of weeks of our distance-learning plan, there will not be a need for educational materials that may have been left in the building.

How do I return library books to the schools?

During the “Stay Home, Stay Safe” order, we will not be receiving library books. After the order expires, we will provide notification regarding the process to be used to return books.

Is there still going to be Prom/Junior-Senior Banquet/Honor’s Convocation/Scholarship Night?

At this time, the only events that will still be scheduled will be events planned for high school seniors, and these events will be modified. More information will be shared when available. Unfortunately, events like prom, 3rd grade walks, elementary picnics, etc. will not be able to be held this year.

How do I register my student for kindergarten?

Please pre-register your student by calling South Maple Elementary at 989-731-0648 on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays between 8am and 12pm. A new date will be scheduled for kindergarten registration once the Stay Safe, Stay Home order is lifted.

How will I receive spring pictures or yearbooks?

Plans are being developed to provide spring pictures and yearbooks to families once they are available. Details will be communicated once finalized.

Is my senior going to be able to graduate?

Yes! If your senior was on track to graduate prior to the school closure, your senior will graduate.
Will my child be promoted to the next grade level?

Yes! If your child was on track to be promoted to the next grade level for the 2020-21 school year, your child will be promoted.

Can I still request my student’s teacher for next year?

Information on 2020-21 teacher requests will be provided in each school’s newsletter.

Is the district going to provide meals during the school closure?

Yes! GCS is committed to continuing the meal distribution program during the school closure. Beginning April 13, meals will be available at GIS & NOE from 9am to 11am and at designated locations throughout the district from 9am to 10am every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Who do we contact if we still have questions?

We have staff members available via telephone in each building on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8am to 12pm.