

RE-OPENING CGESD

A DRAFT PLAN FOR STUDENTS, FAMILIES, AND STAFF

**KEEP THE STUDENT
EXPERIENCE AT THE
CENTER OF ALL
DECISIONS**



WE ARE A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS, LEADERS, AND INNOVATORS



**CONSIDER OUR
VISION AND
VALUES BEFORE
CONSTRAINTS**

compassion - equity - excellence - responsibility - collaboration - learning

**INCLUDE AND
ENGAGE
OTHERS**



RE-OPENING CGESD

On March 12, CGESD sent our students and staff off to spring break knowing it was possible we wouldn't return as anticipated for in-person learning due to the outbreak of COVID-19. During this break, Governor Ducey called for a school closure that eventually was extended through the end of the academic year. During the last quarter of school, students and teachers engaged in emergency remote learning throughout the district.

While our preferred model of teaching and learning is one that embraces in-person approaches, leadership opportunity, and innovative thinking, we anticipate continued public health restrictions when school resumes in the fall. The purpose of our Re-Opening CGESD Model outlined in this document is to share the foundation from which decisions have been and will continue to be made related to maximizing opportunities for in-person learning that keep the student experience at the heart of all we do.

Our intent is to provide in-person learning to the greatest extent feasible when it is safe to return to school. In doing so, we understand that some families may prefer a remote learning environment for their children, or that a COVID-19 surge may require our schools or district to shift to a hybrid format for temporary periods with little to no warning when we re-open. We want to be ready, and therefore several work teams spent numerous hours this spring and summer to plan for a variety of scenarios.

Our draft document, Re-Opening CGESD is based on guidance from the Arizona Department of Education and public health information that has been provided to date. The document may be adjusted as new data and guidance becomes available. The plan is also based on the following tenets: 1) Keep the student experience at the center of all decisions, 2) Consider our district's vision and values before constraints, and 3) include and engage others as decisions are made. Over 70 individuals are working on teams to inform this plan. Included are school teachers, support staff, nurses, counselors, principals, family members, community members, and district personnel. We are grateful for their time and willingness to support a safe and healthy start to the 2020-21 school year.

RE-ENTRY MODELS

The new school start date for the 2020-2021 school year is August 17, 2020. Families may select Distance Learning or the CGESD Online Academy options for their children. Additionally, a staggered schedule hybrid plan is being developed as a contingency in the event of high rates of community spread when students return for in person learning after October.

1. Distance Learning – students return to school in an online distance learning fashion. Select this option if your family chooses to continue with your present school via Distance Learning (this is our current scenario for instruction beginning August 17th with an anticipated return to in-person learning). Age-appropriate activity and standards based instruction will be provided from their school based teacher.

2. Online Academy – Online Learning Academy is a NEW school that will function completely virtually. The CGOLA will offer high-quality, engaging kindergarten through eighth-grade education, which can be accessed at home. Students can check out district-issued technology to access the curriculum. Internet access will be required to access online content. Additionally, students will continue to learn the standards taught at their home CGESD school, even while attending the CGOLA. They will be assigned a teacher within the online academy. Teachers will design an entire year of academic material to be delivered in an online format. Students will not attend a 'school building'. Students' individual needs will be met by a teacher, but in a virtual setting only.

3. Staggered Schedule Hybrid Learning – students return to school in-person two days a week with extra precautions in place. Students will learn from home on the other days. This model will be used if levels of community spread are considered to be high after schools reopen for in person learning. Cohorts of students will be assigned to attend on either Monday and Tuesday OR Thursday and Friday. Wednesday will be a day for extensive cleaning and disinfecting. Students will learn remotely on the days in which they do not attend in-person.

HEALTH & SAFETY

CGESD will continue to collaborate with partners across Arizona, considering the guidance of the Arizona Department of Education (ADE), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and others as school resumes for in person learning to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment for our students and staff. Regardless of the learning model (in-person, hybrid, or families choosing to send their children to our new online academy) all individuals entering CGESD property will be required to follow the health and safety regulations articulated. Below is an explanation of the health regulations we anticipate based upon current information:

Health and Safety Area 1 – Restricting Large Group Gatherings

- CGESD will limit the use of large group gathering areas including gymnasiums, cafeterias, and hallways.
- We will work to deter mass gatherings in large groups for assemblies, field trips, and large group meetings.
- Breakfast and lunch will be served in classrooms.
- Buses will use a distancing plan of not more than one student (or if family living in the same home – two students) per seat.
- Recess and other outside activities may look different to help with distancing. Limiting the sharing of playground equipment will be considered.

HEALTH & SAFETY

CONT.

Health and Safety Area 2 – Limiting Physical Interactions

- Classrooms will space seating to allow distance between students.
- Teachers will use assigned seating to help track virus spread if a student/staff member tests positive for COVID-19.
- We will use physical barriers when students and teachers work closely in proximity to one another (small group instruction, speech language therapy, etc.).
- Physical guides such as tape on floors or walkways and signs on walls may be used to help staff and children remain appropriately distanced
- Mixing between groups of students will be limited.
- Staggered arrival and dismissal times will be used to limit contact between students.
- To lower building capacity and preserve space for students and staff, visitors will be limited.
- To the extent possible, CGESD intends to keep the same student cohorts together.

HEALTH & SAFETY

CONT.

Health and Safety Area 3 – In School Symptom Screening

- Students will be symptom screened upon school entry. This may include a temperature screening as appropriate.
- To the extent possible, the same staff will conduct symptom screening with the same group of students upon school entry each day to increase efficiency and enable staff to know their students when recognizing if certain students present as ill.
- School staff will be trained by our district nurses and provided protocols in August on how to screen students.
- Staff will complete at-home symptom screening attestations daily. Further temperature screening as appropriate will take place at school.
- Staff may be screened for travel to high spread areas, and may be required to quarantine for the appropriate length of time depending on guidance from Pinal County Health Services (PCHS).

HEALTH & SAFETY

CONT.

Health and Safety Area 4 – Hygiene and other Protective Measures

- We anticipate face coverings will be required for students and staff during at least part of the school day.
- Gloves are required for Nutrition Services employees at all times and for other staff whenever cleaning or sanitizing an item or surface.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will continue to be provided to schools throughout the year.
- Additional PPE and accommodations (e.g., plexi-glass, sneeze guards) will be provided for staff and students working in close proximity to others.
- Additional signage about hygiene measures will be on display in buildings.
- Consistent scheduled times and procedures will be established throughout the day for hand hygiene and promoting hand washing (e.g., entering the school, classroom, and throughout the day).
- Each school will attempt to create a one-way traffic flow pattern for students who transition between classes and/or areas of the campus.
- Visual cues such as floor decals, colored tape, or signs to indicate to students and staff the flow and direction of traffic will be posted.
- Hallway water fountain and bottle filler usage will be restricted. Students are encouraged to bring water daily.
- Furniture will be arranged to support student distancing to the extent possible.
- All staff and students will be required to stay home when experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

HEALTH & SAFETY

CONT.

Health and Safety Area 5 – Suspected COVID-19 Cases

- Symptomatic staff and students in the school will need to go to an established isolated room (not the nurses' office, as this must be kept available) until they can safely leave the building.
- District personnel will coordinate with Pinal County Health Services (PCHS) regarding suspected and confirmed cases.
- Our schools and/or district will work with PCHS to determine a course of action on a case-by-case basis.
- A confirmed case on-site may include rolling closures of school for a short-term period.

Health and Safety Area 6 – Transmission Mitigation and Cleaning

- Outdoor air will be circulated in buildings as long as it does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff.
- Students and staff should limit the sharing of all supplies, devices, toys, books, and other learning aids to the greatest extent possible.
- Disinfecting surfaces where bacteria or viruses are most likely to be transmitted will be prioritized.

TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE

CGESD has prioritized technology to ensure all students and teachers have access to a working device. iPads were purchased to ensure access to technology for our students in grades K-1 and Chromebooks were purchased for all students in grades 2-8. Our District is also collaborating with various departments, community partners, businesses, and others in problem-solving efforts to promote reliable internet access for all students and staff to learn and complete their work remotely. Further information regarding internet access for families will be communicated at a later date, prior to the start of the school year.

Technology Area 1 – Devices for Students and Staff

- Procedures are being developed for checking out and taking home devices.
- Plans include future public wifi access at various locations.
- Protection plans for devices will be made available for students.
- Technology support procedures and a help-line will be available to students, families, and staff.
- Keeping devices clean and charged will be a priority.
- Procedures for the care and possible repair of devices will be communicated.

TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE

CONT.

Technology Area 2 – Professional Learning

- Google Classroom and other online tools including Clever, Nearpod, and myViewboard will be made available for teachers to explore and practice.
- Troubleshooting issues with devices will be another area for staff training.
- Professional learning and study related to digital teaching and learning will occur.

SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND ACADEMIC LEARNING

CGESD has embraced our vision of building "a community of learners, leaders, and innovators". In working toward our vision, we understand that any change to the learning environment has the potential to be a barrier for our learners. Attending to the social emotional needs of our students in each learning scenario (distance learning, hybrid, and in our online academy) will involve trauma informed classroom management, positive behavior interventions and supports, and an emphasis on relationship building and engagement to enhance learning climate and culture.

We also commit to ensuring grade level standards are taught and reinforced from day one of our return. No matter what limitations may be imposed on our teaching and learning in the year ahead, a strong focus on literacy will continue during the 2020-21 school year.

By offering distance learning, hybrid, and online learning for our students, CGESD will continue to focus on strong relationships and opportunities for engagement with our students. We have planned for hybrid learning during rolling quarantines, closures, and/or times of high community spread. Hybrid learning is a combination of in-person and remote learning, and we understand that this method will not recreate the classroom experience to which our staff and students are accustomed. Therefore, tools and systems will be in place to support teachers and staff across the district to meet the needs of all students.

In hybrid situations, students will be taught in ways that are most effectively delivered in an in-person environment while still accessing online resources through Google Classroom. In-person time with students will include experiences that are positive, welcoming, and geared toward student connections and needs. Remote learning will look different than it did during the Spring 2020 final quarter. We have the opportunity to provide devices to each student, and the combination of in-person and remote learning can take place asynchronously. Asynchronous learning is when instruction and learning do not happen at the same time for all learners. The teacher provides learning resources and tasks, and students access learning at a time that works for them and their family. Synchronous learning is an approach where teachers and students engage online in learning together and at the same time.

SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND ACADEMIC LEARNING

CONT.

SEAL Area 1 – Partnering with Families and Students

- Family conferences will be scheduled in lieu of “Meet Your Teacher” events.
- Individual appointments will take place during the week preceding the opening of school to ensure a smooth transition and re-entry for students, parents, and staff.
- Instruction for accessing Google Classroom will take place prior to school re-entry.
- Ongoing communication will be provided to support families in the learning process.
- An online learning academy will be available for families wanting to support in-home learning.
- Additional resources to help make hybrid learning successful for students at home will be shared.
- Technology tips and troubleshooting guidance will be available to help students and families navigate online instructional tools such as Google Classroom.

SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND ACADEMIC LEARNING

CONT.

SEAL Area 2 – Social Emotional Learning

- A social-emotional learning curriculum will be used to help support student belonging and engagement.
- School counselors will work with their teams, school leaders, and staff to ensure the social emotional needs of students are being considered and addressed.
- A focus on supporting a positive climate and culture that acknowledges universal trauma care strategies for students will be present in our interactions.
- Protocols will be used to administer a strengths-based screener at all schools to assess and positively respond to student needs.

SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND ACADEMIC LEARNING

CONT.

SEAL Area 3 – Relationships, Routines & Learning Expectations

- Teachers and staff will ensure grade level content is taught.
- Teams are developing plans to help students start the school year with strong relationships, routines, attention to health, and expectations.
- Teachers will use integrated standard guides to support thematic and unit based teaching for integration of content to maximize accelerating learning.
- Teachers will use vertical articulations of standards to identify areas to strengthen and support.
- Flexible learning expectations and timelines are being created for students in order to prepare them for in-person and hybrid learning
- Teachers will review and provide meaningful feedback on student work; adjusting the pace as necessary.
- Remediation will occur just before new content is being taught in order to help refresh the memory and build new skills on prior knowledge.
- Teaching approaches that facilitate in-person and hybrid learning will use data to inform next steps in learning.
- Literacy skills will be supported by ensuring that reading, writing, and talking about text are embedded into every routine and content area.
- Teachers and staff will work together to identify anticipated student learning gaps and use strategies to close them throughout the year.
- Foundational literacy and math skills will be a priority.
- Teachers will build upon and support student learning interests to the greatest extent possible.

RE-OPENING CGESD



Our plan includes...



POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS, ROUTINES & EXPECTATIONS

A positive classroom and school culture that supports student belonging and meaningful engagement will continue to be our priority



FAMILY CONFERENCES TO PARTNER & START STRONG

Individual appointments will take place during the week preceding the opening of school to ensure a smooth transition and re-entry for students, parents, and staff



DISTANCING PLANS

Safe distancing plans have been developed for public locations such as buses, cafeterias, gyms, and hallways



SYMPTOM SCREENING

At-home and in-school protocols will be used to keep students and staff safe. Students and staff with fevers, coughs or signs of respiratory illness will not be allowed on CGESD property



ENHANCED CLEANING & DISINFECTING

Members of our team will perform disinfecting measures throughout the day and across all areas of our schools



PROTECTIVE HYGIENE MEASURES

Routines for hand washing, furniture placement, physical barriers, and face coverings will be implemented



DEVICES FOR ALL STUDENTS & TEACHERS

Every student will be assigned their own device for in-school and at-home learning



BOTH IN-PERSON & ONLINE LEARNING OPTIONS

Families may choose to enroll their child at their home school or in our free online academy

KEEPING THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE AT THE CENTER OF ALL DECISIONS