

# April Special Meeting Agenda

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District #35 has been scheduled for **Monday May 24, 2021 at 5:30pm** electronically via Zoom. (All policies can be found at [www.gallatingateway.school.com](http://www.gallatingateway.school.com).)

## Call to Order

## Presiding Trustee's explanation of procedures

## Public Comment- Non Agenda Items- Sign in sheet

## Consent Agenda

Warrants

## Old Business

Discuss & Consider Revisions to GGS Policy #1905-Student, Staff, and Community Health & Safety

Discuss & Consider Revisions to GGS Reopening Plan

## Next Meetings:

June 4, 2021- special meeting @ 10am- agenda setting

June 30, 2021- regular meeting @ 6pm

## Adjournment

## ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION:

1. Login details are on the district website-- [See District Calendar](#)
2. Please ensure your mic is muted until called upon by the Committee Chair
3. Public Comment is accepted two times during the meeting:
  - a. During non-agenda public comment for items not on the agenda
  - b. When the Committee Chair opens it for public comment as determined appropriate
4. To participate from a mobile device or computer:
  - a. Please use the "Raise Hand" button under "Participants" button at the bottom of your screen
  - b. Once called on please unmute yourself to provide comments
5. To participate from a phone when dialed in:
  - a. \*9 to raise and lower hand for public comment
  - b. Once called on please press \*6 to unmute yourself to provide comment

*"The Gallatin Gateway School community empowers our students to take responsibility for their learning so they may achieve their individual potentials as lifelong learners and productive citizens."*

### Audience Participation

The Board recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of involving members of the public in its meetings. The Board also recognizes the statutory and constitutional rights of the public to participate in governmental operations. To allow fair and orderly expression of public comments, the Board will permit public participation through oral or written comments during the “public comment” section of the Board agenda and prior to a final decision on a matter of significant interest to the public. The Chairperson may control such comment to ensure an orderly progression of the meeting.

Individuals wishing to be heard by the Chairperson shall first be recognized by the Chairperson. Individuals, after identifying themselves, will proceed to make comments as briefly as the subject permits. The Chairperson may interrupt or terminate an individual’s statement when appropriate, including when statements are out of order, too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant. The Board as a whole shall have the final decision in determining the appropriateness of all such rulings. It is important for all participants to remember that Board meetings are held in public but are not public meetings. Members of the public shall be recognized and allowed input during the meeting, at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Cross Reference: 1420 School Board Meeting Procedure

Legal Reference: Article II, Section 8, Montana Constitution – Right of participation  
Article II, Section 10, Montana Constitution – Right of privacy  
§§ 2-3-101, et seq., MCA Notice and Opportunity to Be Heard

*“The Gallatin Gateway School community empowers our students to take responsibility for their learning so they may achieve their individual potentials as lifelong learners and productive citizens.”*

# Gallatin Gateway School

“Educating the Future”

100 Mill Street, PO Box 265, Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730

Phone: (406) 763-4415 Fax: (406) 763-4886

[www.gallatingatewayschool.com](http://www.gallatingatewayschool.com)

## MEMO

TO: Gallatin Gateway Board of Trustees

FROM: Carrie Fisher, Business Manager

SUBJECT: Warrant Register Summary

DATE: May 21, 2021

Warrant Numbers (including Direct Deposit/ACH):

Claim (A/P) Warrants #'s:  
#36940- #36948

Electronic Payment:  
None

Voided Claim (A/P) Warrant #'s:  
None

Payroll Warrant #'s:  
None

Direct Deposits/ACH #'s:  
None

Voided Payroll Warrant #'s:  
None

Thank you.

05/21/21  
16:10:58

GALLATIN GATEWAY ELEMENTARY  
Claims and/or Payroll Checks List For Checks from 05/21/21 to 05/31/21  
For checks between: 05/21/21 - 05/31/21

Page: 1 of 1  
Report ID: W100X

Claims

Check #	Type	Vendor/Employee/Payee Number/Name	Check Amount	Period	Date Issued	Notes
36940	SC	43 ALSCO-AMERICAN LINEN DIVISION	195.17	5/21	05/24/21	
36941	SC	150 BOZEMAN ARBORCARE TREE SERVICE	250.00	5/21	05/24/21	
36942	SC	195 BUFFALO RESTORATIONS INC	1739.93	5/21	05/24/21	
36943	SC	431 GALLATIN CO. SUPERINTENDENT OF SC	159.06	5/21	05/24/21	
36944	SC	451 GATEWAY ELECTRIC LLC	733.92	5/21	05/24/21	
36945	SC	1801 NOWLIN, MEGAN	35.00	5/21	05/24/21	
36946	SC	878 ORIGINAL WORKS YOURS INC	266.25	5/21	05/24/21	
36947	SC	1110 SYSCO FOOD SERVICES OF MT	1575.07	5/21	05/24/21	
36948	SC	420 US FOODS	2121.16	5/21	05/24/21	

Claims Total # of Checks: 9 Total: 7075.56

Grand Total # of Checks: 9 Total: 7075.56

Check Types: MC=Manual Claim, SC=System Claim, V=Void (never in system), E=ACH  
P=Payroll, C=Cancelled (cancelled in system), R=Reissued, D=Deleted (deleted in system)

\* ... Over spent expenditure

Warrant Claim	Vendor #/Name	Amount	Acct/Source/				Obj	Proj
Line #	Invoice #/Inv Date/Description	Line Amount	PO #	Fund	Org	Prog-Func	Obj	Proj
36940S	43 ALSCO-AMERICAN LINEN DIVISION							
	2760	195.17						
1	1666221 05/17/21 APRON, TOWEL, MOP, RUGS	117.10		101	80	100-2600	610	
2	1666221 05/17/21 APRON, TOWEL, MOP, RUGS	9.76*		110	80	100-2700	610	
3	1666221 05/17/21 APRON, TOWEL, MOP, RUGS	68.31*		112	80	910-3100	610	
	Total Check:	195.17						
36941S	150 BOZEMAN ARBORCARE TREE SERVICE							
	2756	250.00						
1	85288 05/17/21 Pruning shrubs/trees	200.00	21199	101	80	100-2600	440	
2	85288 05/17/21 Removal of cuttings	50.00	21199	101	80	100-2600	440	
	Total Check:	250.00						
36942S	195 BUFFALO RESTORATIONS INC							
	2762	1,739.93						
We will be reimbursed for \$739.93 from insurance for this expense.								
1	4212504 05/19/21 WATER MITIGATION- CAFE CRAWL	1,739.93		101	80	100-2600	440	
	Total Check:	1,739.93						
36943S	431 GALLATIN CO. SUPERINTENDENT OF							
	2758	159.06						
1	2021-42 05/18/21 ELECTION AD	132.06*		101	80	100-2314	540	
2	2021-42 05/18/21 FINGERPRINT/BKGD CHECK- DR	27.00		101	80	100-2300	330	
	Total Check:	159.06						
36944S	451 GATEWAY ELECTRIC LLC							
	2759	733.92						
1	1575 05/12/21 POWER OUTLET INSTALL FREEZER	733.92*		112	80	910-3100	440	203
	Total Check:	733.92						
36945S	1801 NOWLIN, MEGAN							
	2761	35.00						
1	05/14/21 REFUND- TRACK (FY20)	35.00		184		1750		
	Total Check:	35.00						
36946S	878 ORIGINAL WORKS YOURS INC							
	2757	266.25						
1	47323D1-IN 04/06/21 Tile Wall	250.00*	21200	101	82	100-1000	610	
2	47323D1-IN 04/06/21 Shipping	16.25*	21200	101	82	100-1000	610	
	Total Check:	266.25						

05/21/21  
16:09:46

GALLATIN GATEWAY ELEMENTARY  
Check/Claim Details  
For the Accounting Period: 5/21

Page: 2 of 2  
Report ID: AP100W

\* ... Over spent expenditure

Warrant Claim	Vendor #/Name	Amount	Acct/Source/				Obj	Proj
Line #	Invoice #/Inv Date/Description	Line Amount	PO #	Fund	Org	Prog-Func	Obj	Proj
36947S	1110 SYSCO FOOD SERVICES OF MT							
	2764	1,575.07						
1	343241862 05/18/21 FOOD	1,218.56*		112	80	910-3100	630	
2	343241862 05/18/21 SUPPLIES	219.95*		112	80	910-3100	610	
3	343243625 05/20/21 SUPPLIES	136.56*		112	80	910-3100	610	
	Total Check:	1,575.07						
36948S	420 US FOODS							
	2763	2,121.16						
1	4979782 05/13/21 FOOD	160.23*		101	80	910-3100	630	
2	4979782 05/13/21 FOOD	373.86*		112	80	910-3100	630	
3	5049281 05/17/21 FOOD	310.33*		101	80	910-3100	630	
4	5049281 05/17/21 FOOD	724.10*		112	80	910-3100	630	
5	5125843 05/20/21 FOOD	506.03*		112	80	910-3100	630	
6	5125844 05/20/21 FOOD	46.61*		112	80	910-3100	630	
	Total Check:	2,121.16						
	# of Claims	9	Total:				7,075.56	

Student, Staff, and Community Health and Safety

The School District has adopted the protocols outlined in this policy during the term of the declared public health emergency to ensure the safe and healthy delivery of education services provided to students on school property in accordance with Policy 1906, and a safe workplace when staff are present on school property in accordance with Policy 1909, and the safety, health and well-being of parents and community members. The supervising teacher, principal, superintendent or designated personnel are authorized to implement the protocols in coordination with state and local health officials.

Symptoms of Illness

Students and staff who are ill, feeling ill, diagnosed as ill, or otherwise demonstrating symptoms of illness must not come to school or work. Students who have a fever or are exhibiting other signs of illness must be isolated in a designated area until such time as parents or caregiver may arrive at the school to retrieve the ill student. All surfaces and areas should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected once the student has vacated the area by staff utilizing safety measures in accordance with state and/or local health standards as applicable. Students may engage in alternative delivery of education services during the period of illness or be permitted to make up work in accordance with District Policy 1906. Staff members will be provided access to leave in accordance with District Policy 1911 or the applicable Master Contract or Memorandum of Understanding.

Parents, guardians, or caregivers of students who are ill, feeling ill, diagnosed as ill, or otherwise demonstrating symptoms of illness must not be present at the school for any reason including but not limited events or gatherings or to drop off or pick up students excepted as provided by this policy. To avoid exposing others to illness, parents or caregivers who are ill must make arrangements with others to transport students to school or events, if at all practicable. If not practicable, parents, guardians or caregivers must not leave their vehicle during pickup or drop off and must arrange with District staff to supervise students in accordance with physical distancing guidelines in this Policy.

Physical Distancing

To the extent possible, elementary school courses will be delivered to the same group of students each day, and the same teachers will remain with the same group in the same separate and designated room each day. Meal service and courses delivered in a separate areas such as library, gymnasium, and music room will be delivered in the designated classroom for each group of students. Recess and use of playgrounds during recess are permitted on an adjusted schedule to maintain appropriate student groupings. Transportation services will be provided in accordance with cleaning and disinfection procedures outlined in this policy.

Secondary school courses will be delivered using a restructured bell system to minimize student interaction in common areas. Upon arriving in a classroom, secondary school students will be provided disinfecting wipes or disinfecting spray and disposable paper towel and time to clean their learning area or desk. Meal service for secondary students will be provided through a grab and go lunch that will be eaten in designated areas.

Parent arrival times to drop-off and pick up students riding with parents and caregivers will be staggered in designated intervals by grade level through a schedule set by the supervising teacher or building administrator.

Drop off and pick up of students will be completed in a manner that limits direct contact between parents and staff members and adhere to social distancing recommendations in the exterior of the building.

Visitors to the school authorized by District Policy 1903 will maintain a six-foot distance between themselves and others. This distancing requirement does not apply to individuals who are a part of the visitor's regular household isolation group when the group is authorized to present at the school facility.

### Masks as Personal Protective Equipment

In accordance with directives from the State of Montana, ~~if the number of active COVID-19 cases in the county in which the School District is located is four (4) or more, the School District requires~~ <sup>recommends</sup> all staff, volunteers, visitors, and students aged five (5) and over to wear disposable or reusable masks that cover the nose and mouth or face shields to protect colleagues and peers while present in any school building. In accordance with directives from the State of Montana, ~~if the number of active COVID-19 cases in the county in which the School District is located is four (4) or more, the School District also requires~~ <sup>recommends</sup> all staff, volunteers, visitors, and students aged five (5) and over to wear disposable or reusable masks that cover the nose and mouth or face shields to protect colleagues and peers while present at any outdoor school activity with fifty (50) or more people where physical distancing is not possible or is not observed. The School District will provide masks or shields to students, volunteers, and staff. If a student or staff wears a reusable mask or face shield, the School District expects that the masks be washed on a regular basis to ensure maximum protection. The School District will assist students or staff members who request help washing or replacing a mask.

~~Students, staff, volunteers, and visitors are not required to wear a mask under this provision when consuming food or drink, engaged in physical activity, communicating with someone who is hearing impaired, giving a speech to a gathering separated by distance, identifying themselves, receiving medical attention, or have a medical or developmental condition precluding use of a mask. The superintendent, building principal, or their designee who may request documentation from a care provider when considering an exception to this provision for medical or developmental reasons. The School District will honor all applicable disability and discrimination laws when implementing this provision by providing alternative services to those requesting accommodation.~~

All points of entry to any school building or facility open to the public shall have a clearly visible sign posted stating: "Mask or face covering use <sup>recommended</sup> ~~required~~ for ages 5 and older." The School District authorizes the administration to report any violations of this provision to the county attorney.

Allegations of harassment of any person wearing face coverings or those with recognized exemptions to the face covering requirement will be promptly investigated in accordance with District policy. A student, staff member, or visitor who, after an investigation, is found to engaged in behavior that violates District policy is subject to redirection or discipline. ~~Failure or refusal to wear a face covering by a staff member or student not subject to an exception noted above may result in redirection or discipline in accordance with District policy and codes of conduct, as applicable.~~

### Cleaning and Disinfecting

School district personnel will routinely both clean by removing germs, dirt and impurities and disinfect by using chemicals to kill germs on all surfaces and objects in any school building and on school property that are frequently touched. This process shall include cleaning objects/surfaces not ordinarily cleaned daily.

Personnel will clean with the cleaners typically used and will use all cleaning products according to the directions on the label. Personnel will disinfect with common EPA-registered household disinfectants. A list of products that are EPA-approved for use against the virus that causes COVID-19 is available from the



supervising teacher or administrator. Personnel will follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products.

The District will provide EPA-registered disposable wipes to teachers, staff, and secondary students so that commonly used surfaces (e.g., keyboards, desks, remote controls) can be wiped down before use. Supervising teacher or administrators are required to ensure adequate supplies to support cleaning and disinfection practices.

### Student Arrival

Hand hygiene stations will be available at the entrance of any school building, so that children can clean their hands before they enter. If a sink with soap and water is not available, the School District will provide hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Hand sanitizer will be kept out of elementary students' reach and student use will be supervised by staff.

A District employee will greet children outside the school as they arrive to ensure orderly compliance with the provisions of this policy.

### Temperature Screening

Designated School District staff are authorized to test the temperature of students with an approved non-contact or touchless temperature reader. Students who have a fever or are exhibiting other signs of illness must be isolated in a designated area until such time as parents or caregiver may arrive at the school to retrieve the ill student. All surfaces and areas should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected once the student has vacated the area by staff utilizing safety measures in accordance with state and/or local health standards as applicable.

When administering a temperature check on a possibly ill student, designated staff members will utilize available physical barriers and personal protective equipment to eliminate or minimize exposures due to close contact to a child who has symptoms during screening.

### Healthy Hand Hygiene Behavior

All students, staff, and others present in the any school building will engage in hand hygiene at the following times, which include but are not limited to:

- Arrival to the facility and after breaks
- Before and after preparing, eating, or handling food or drinks
- Before and after administering medication or screening temperature
- After coming in contact with bodily fluid
- After recess
- After handling garbage
- After assisting students with handwashing
- After use of the restroom

Hand hygiene includes but is not limited to washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If hands are not visibly dirty, alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol can be used if soap and water are not readily available.

Staff members will supervise children when they use hand sanitizer and soap to prevent ingestion.

Staff members will place grade level appropriate posters describing handwashing steps near sinks.

### Vulnerable Individuals

Vulnerable individuals (defined by the Centers for Disease Control at the time of this policy's adoption as those age 65 or older or those with serious underlying health conditions, including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune system is compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such therapy) are authorized to talk to their healthcare provider to assess their risk and to determine if they should telework during the period of declared public health emergency.

Employees who have documented high risk designation from a medical provider are entitled to reasonable accommodation within the meaning of that term in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 as outlined in District Policy 5002. These accommodations may include but are not limited to teleworking in accordance with a work plan developed in coordination with and authorized by the supervising teacher, administrator or other designated supervisor. Such employees may also be eligible for available leave in accordance with the applicable policy or master agreement provision.

### Food Preparation and Meal Service

Facilities must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations and guidance related to safe preparation of food.

Sinks used for food preparation must not be used for any other purposes. Staff and students will wash their hands in accordance with this policy.

### Transportation Services

The Board of Trustees authorizes the transportation of eligible transportees to and from the school facility in a manner consistent with the protocols established in this policy. The transportation director and school bus drivers will clean and disinfect each seat on each bus after each use.

### Public Awareness

The School District will communicate with parents, citizens, and other necessary stakeholders about the protocols established in this policy and the steps taken to implement the protocols through all available and reasonable means.

### Confidentiality

This policy in no way limits or adjusts the School District's obligations to honor staff and student privacy rights. All applicable district policies and handbook provision governing confidentiality of student and staff medical information remain in full effect.

### Transfer of Funds for Safety Purposes

The Board of Trustees may transfer state or local revenue from any budgeted or non-budgeted fund, other than the debt service fund or retirement fund, to its building reserve fund in an amount not to exceed the school district's estimated costs of improvements to school and student safety and security to implement this policy in accordance with District Policy 1006FE.

Cross Reference:

- Policy 1901 – School District Policy and Procedures
- Policy 1906 - Student Services and Instructional Delivery
- Policy 1907 – Transportation Services
- Policy 1006FE – Transfer of Funds for Safety Purposes
- Policy 3410 – Student examination and screenings
- Policy 3417 – Communicable Diseases
- Policy 3431 – Emergency Treatment

Policy 1911 - Personnel Use of Leave  
Policy 1910 – Human Resources and Personnel  
Policy 4120 - Public Relations  
Policy 5002 – Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities  
Policy 5130 – Staff Health  
Policy 5230 - Prevention of Disease Transmission  
Policy 6110 – Superintendent Authority  
Policy 6122 - Delegation of Authority

Policy History:

Adopted on: August 19, 2020

Reviewed on:

Revised on:

Terminated on:

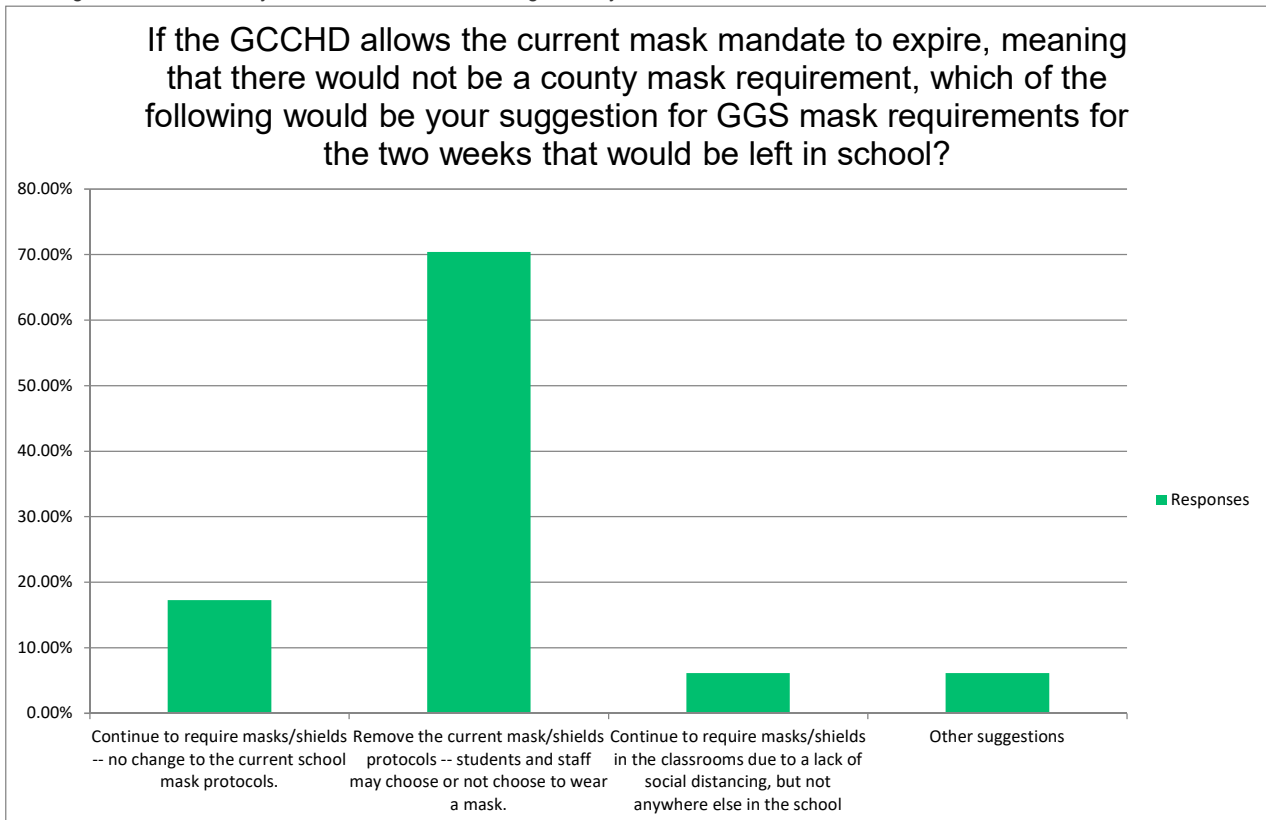
## Mask Mandate

If the GCCHD allows the current mask mandate to expire, meaning that there would not be a county mask requirement, which of the following would be your suggestion for GGS mask requirements for the two weeks that would be left in school?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Continue to require masks/shields -- no change to the current school mask protocols.	17.28%	14
Remove the current mask/shields protocols -- students and staff may choose or not choose to wear a mask.	70.37%	57
Continue to require masks/shields in the classrooms due to a lack of social distancing, but not anywhere else in the school	6.17%	5
Other suggestions	6.17%	5
<b>Answered</b>		<b>81</b>
<b>Skipped</b>		<b>0</b>

**Other suggestions**

I don't have a strong opinion either way.  
 vaccinate all staff and no masks  
 The mask mandate is ridiculous. The GCCHD and the school have no authority to continue with the mandate.  
 My suggestion would be to follow health department recommendations.  
 No change for the rest of the year but revisit for the following school year



Mask Mandate

**If GGS removes the mask/shield requirement, and adults and students can choose or not choose to wear a mask, will this decision affect whether or not you send you student(s) to school for the last two weeks?**

Answer Choices	Responses	
I will continue to send my student(s) to school	87.65%	71
I will not send my student(s) to school for the last two weeks of school	6.17%	5
Other thoughts on sending or not sending your student(s) to school	6.17%	5
	<b>Answered</b>	<b>81</b>
	<b>Skipped</b>	<b>0</b>

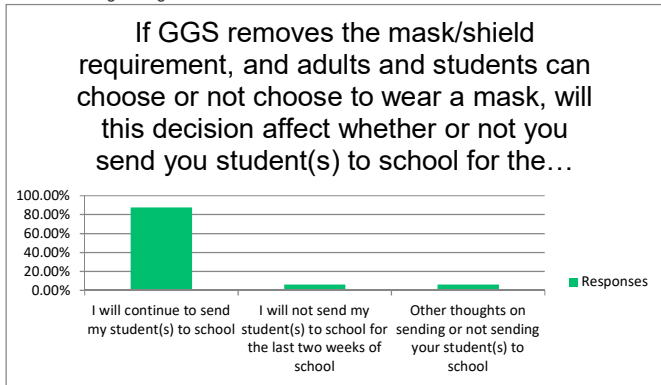
Other thoughts on sending or not sending your student(s) to school  
 Each individual should have the choice to wear a mask or not to wear a mask and if they want to go to school or not. Very simple.

This may affect our ability to return to school prior to vaccination next year. Percentage of vaccinated adults will also affect decision per our medical team.

I will send my kids without masks! Please...i beg that you give them this option! My kids are so sick of their faces being irritated! This would end a hard year on a high note!!! Please!!! Thank you! The

I think our school is doing so well right now the way we are handling things. I think we should continue and maybe give them the last day of school off because we'll mostly be outside?

Why would we change things for the last 2 weeks there is no difference in threat.





# Mask Mandate for Teachers/Staff

0

SUMMARY → DESIGN SURVEY → PREVIEW & SCORE → COLLECT RESPONSES → ANALYZE RESULTS → PRESENT RESULTS



RESPONDENTS: 22 of 22

ADD TO DASHBOARD

SAVE AS



QUESTION SUMMARIES

INSIGHTS AND DATA TRENDS

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSES



Page 1: Mask Mandate



Q1



Customize

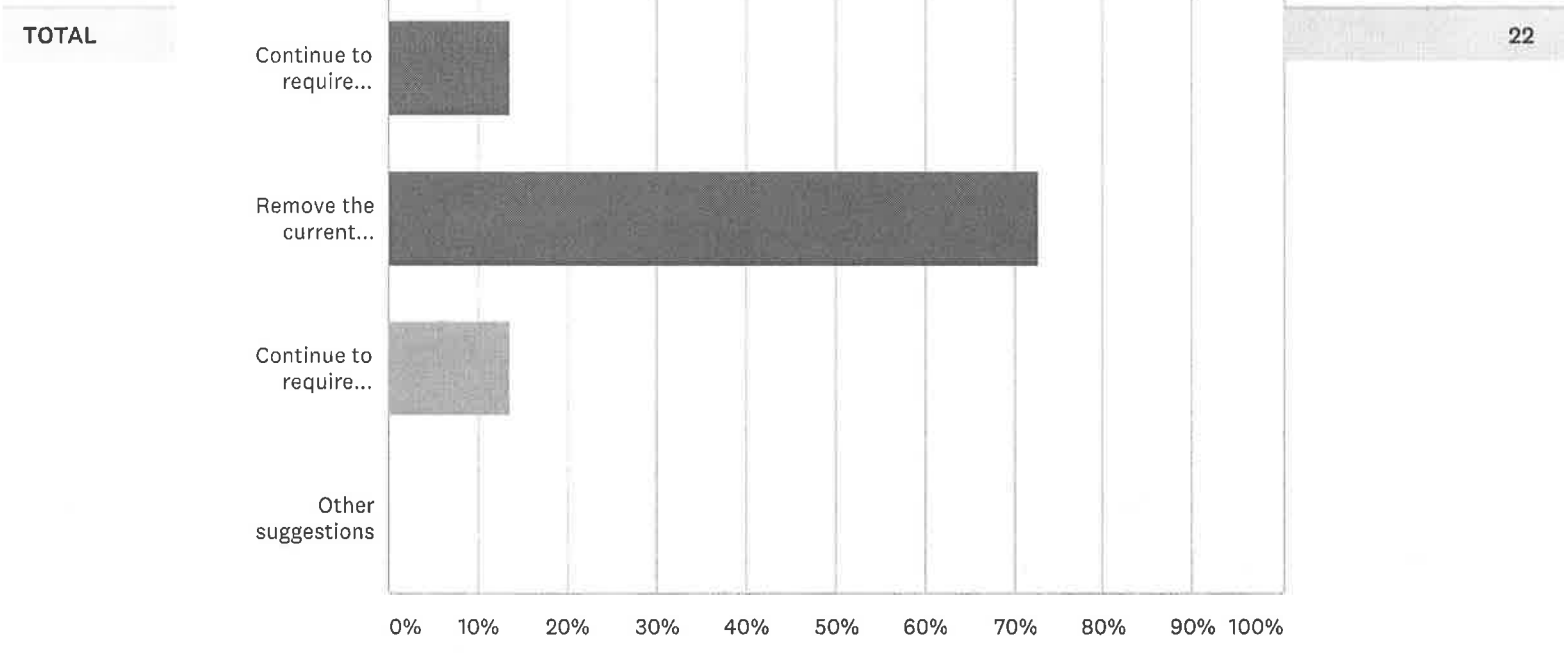
Save as



The CDC recommends that schools continue to require masks when social distancing is not possible. Which of the following would be your suggestion for GGS mask requirements for weeks that are left in the school year?

Answered: 22 Skipped: 0





ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Continue to require masks/shields -- no change to the current school mask protocols.	13.64% 3
Remove the current mask/shields protocols -- students and staff may choose or not choose to wear a mask.	72.73% 16
Continue to require masks/shields in the classrooms due to a lack of social distancing, but not anywhere else in the school	13.64% 3
Other suggestions	Responses 0.00% 0



ANSWER CHOICES  
TOTAL


RESPONSES  
22

RESPONSES (0) WORD CLOUD TAGS (0)

Sentiments: OFF

NEW!

 **Introducing Sentiment Analysis**  
Detect the feeling and sentiment behind written responses.

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Premier plan only

[UPGRADE](#)

Add tags ▼

Filter by tag ▼

Search responses   


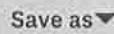
Showing 0 responses





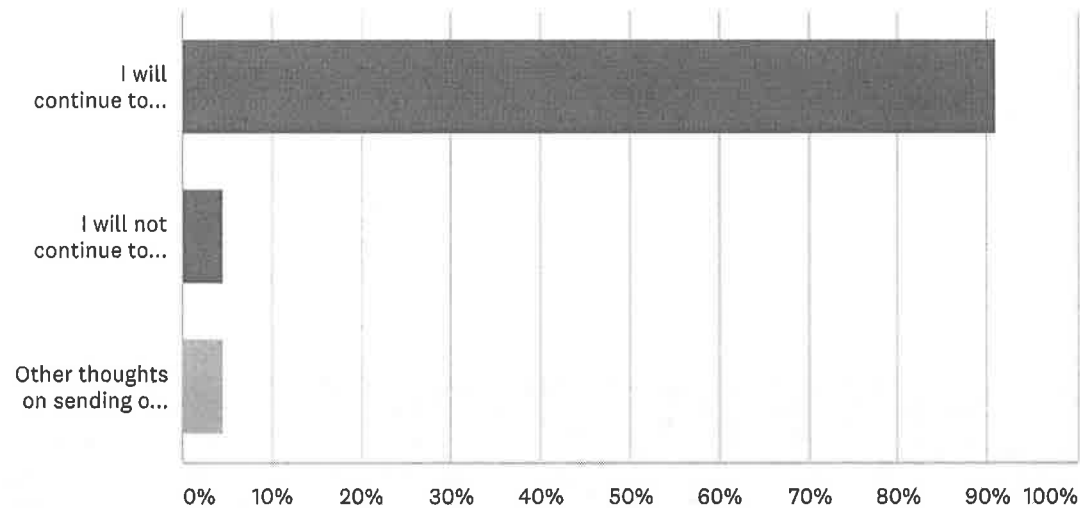
TOTAL	22
TOTAL	22

Q2

 Customize  Save as

If GGS removes the mask/shield requirement, and adults and students can choose or not choose to wear a mask, how will this affect your desire to work in the building?

Answered: 22 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
<input type="checkbox"/> I will continue to come to work, without reservation.	90.91% 20
<input type="checkbox"/> I will not continue to work, as I feel it an unsafe working environment	4.55% 1



ANSWER CHOICES TOTAL	RESPONSES
▼ Other thoughts on sending or not sending your student(s) to school	Responses 4.55% 1



ANSWER CHOICES TOTAL RESPONSES 22

RESPONSES (1) WORD CLOUD TAGS (0)


🔒 Sentiments: OFF

NEW!



### Introducing Sentiment Analysis

Detect the feeling and sentiment behind written responses.

[Watch a demo](#)

↑

Try it!

Premier plan only

UPGRADE

Add tags Filter by tag

Search responses

Showing 1 response

I will continue to wear a mask until all staff and students have been vaccinated. If a staff member has not received a vaccination then they should have to continue to wear a mask until they do!

5/17/2021 2:06 PM

[View respondent's answers](#) Add tags



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
TOTAL	22

ENGLISH

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For immediate release: May 14, 2021

**Press Release**  
**Health Officer Face Coverings Order Rescinded**

Based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued yesterday, and on improving epidemiology of our COVID-19 outbreak in Gallatin County, Health Officer Matt Kelley is rescinding the local Health Officer order related to face coverings, effective today. This decision is based on a number of factors:

- [New CDC guidance](#) issued yesterday stated that people who are **fully vaccinated** (meaning two weeks past their final shot) no longer need to wear masks in many settings;
- The epidemiology in Gallatin County has improved significantly in recent weeks, including in areas consistently identified by the Board of Health as important to informing decision making. These factors include a reduction in cases, hospitalizations, and deaths; adequate capacity at the hospital to deal with those who need care; timely turnaround within our COVID-19 testing system; decreasing test positivity rates among those tested; and adequate capacity to conduct contact tracing for cases that are identified.
- We now have enough vaccine and enough resources to dispense the vaccine to a degree that everyone 16 and older in Gallatin County has had opportunity to get the vaccine if they want to.

“The Board of Health has always been clear about basing decisions on the best public health guidance available and our local epidemiology. Based on those factors, now is the time to move past requirements from the health department to allow organizations and individuals to make decisions based on the best CDC guidance available,” said Matt Kelley, Gallatin County Health Officer.

The local Health Officer order mirrors the Gallatin City-County Board of Health rule for face covering use in the county. While the Board of Health rule technically remains in place until its May 27 expiration, Kelley said that there will be no enforcement of that rule.

Kelley stressed that the new CDC guidance and the decision to rescind the health officer order do not mean that the pandemic is over, and does not give anyone the right to ignore policies and rules put in place by businesses and other organizations. Kelley also noted that the CDC continues to recommend mask use in certain settings, including schools, health care facilities, and congregate settings such as correctional facilities. Businesses and organizations still have the authority and right to make decisions on requiring masks. CDC continues to recommend [prevention measures](#) for unvaccinated people that includes wearing a mask and social distancing, Kelley said.



Kelley noted he would also be rescinding a health officer order regarding nursing homes and assisted living facilities on Friday. He said the health department will continue to work proactively with nursing homes, assisted living facilities and other senior-serving organizations to continue to follow all necessary infection prevention and control measures recommended by the CDC and other public health experts.

“This virus is still dangerous, especially for people who are not vaccinated,” Kelley said. “We recommend that all organizations continue to follow CDC guidance, and we urge all individuals to respect and follow those decisions. We will get back to normal if people keep getting vaccinated, and if we work together to limit transmission in higher risk settings.”

Kelley emphasized that the Board of Health has always worked to base its decisions on local epidemiology and the best guidance available from public health experts and the scientific community. He noted that the county’s rolling 7-day average of daily COVID-19 cases per 100,000 residents is now well below 25 cases per day and has been for nearly two weeks, an important threshold of community spread. Hospitalizations have also remain relatively low, and testing capacity is good, Kelley said.

“The new CDC guidance on masks really drives home how important it is to get vaccinated,” Kelley said. “It shows that the vaccine is remarkably effective and safe. We urge everyone 12 and older to get the vaccine to protect themselves and to protect their community.”

The Gallatin City-County Health Department Call Center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for questions about COVID-19. Reach the Call Center by phone at 406-548-0123 or email at [callcenter@readygallatin.com](mailto:callcenter@readygallatin.com).

The most accurate local source of information remains the GCCHD [website](#). Find information on COVID-19 vaccines in Gallatin County [here](#).





Carrie Fisher <fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com>

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## MTSBA Connect : NSBA: Update on CDC/U.S. Department of Education School Mask Guidance

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Emily Dean via Montana School Boards Association <Mail@connectedcommunity.org> Fri, May 14, 2021 at 9:13 AM  
Reply-To: MTSBA-mtsbaconnect@connectedcommunity.org  
To: fisher@gallatingatewayschool.com

### MTSBA Connect

Post New Message

NSBA: Update on CDC/U.S. Department of Education School Mask Guidance

Reply to Group

Reply to Sender



May 14, 2021 8:13 AM  
[Emily Dean](#)

***We received the following message from the National School Boards Association (NSBA) this morning regarding the updated CDC guidance on mask use for those who are fully vaccinated and how this impacts schools.***

Update on CDC/U.S. Department of Education School Mask Guidance

May 14, 2021 11:06 AM

Chip Slaven

Good morning,

I am sure many of you are hearing from your members on the new information that came out yesterday from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on the use of masks and face coverings for individuals who are fully vaccinated.

NSBA has been in touch this morning with the U.S. Department of Education (ED) on what this will mean for schools. Once the CDC provides updated guidance for schools, ED will update their guidance. Until that happens, the current CDC and ED guidance for schools remains in place. Below is some information ED provided that may be helpful to you and your members until new guidance is announced.

***What about my child who is <12 years old? A child under 12 years old who is not vaccinated will still need to take precautions, including wearing a well-fitted mask.***

***What about masks in schools? As of now, the CDC's school guidance remains unchanged. Most students will still be unvaccinated and schools should follow CDC's guidance for schools.***

***What about teachers? Teachers, school administrators, and staff should continue to follow CDC's school guidance until more people and children are vaccinated.***

As soon as we have additional information, NSBA will update the state associations. Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Thanks,  
Chip

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Chip Slaven  
Chief Advocacy Officer  
National School Boards Association  
Alexandria, VA

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Emily Dean  
Director of Advocacy  
Montana School Boards Association  
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## MEMORANDUM

**TO: School District Superintendents**  
**FROM: Montana OPI Superintendent Elsie Arntzen**  
**DATE: May 19, 2021**  
**SUBJECT: Planning for the 2021-2022 School Year**

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As you prepare to plan for once again welcoming students back into the classroom for the 2021-2022 school year, I want to first thank you for all of the tremendous work you, your educators, your classified staff, and your administrators have done to not only keep our school doors open in many of your districts, but more importantly keep our students safe and learning. This past year has been unprecedented, and you have been tremendous leaders in your communities, and our wonderful Montana teachers have continued to put our amazing Montana students first.

On February 12, 2021, Governor Greg Gianforte issued a directive implementing Executive Order 2-2021. In the memo, he rightfully noted that “access to school is essential to the development, social, mental, and educational needs of school-age children.” Further, he said that “schools should make reasonable efforts to follow school guidelines and best practices recommended by the CDC and the Montana Office of Public Instruction.”

Since that time, our state has continued to reopen, and there have been many changes to state and local policies on the required use of masks or face coverings. As a result of a change in state law, many counties have eliminated their requirements for the wearing of masks or face coverings in public space and private businesses.

In light of the changes occurring across the state, as we move into the 2021-2022 school year, **the OPI strongly recommends that school districts across Montana rescind, or allow to expire, any existing face covering mandates, and develop policies that make the wearing of face masks and other coverings optional, voluntary, and a matter of family choice.** Further, the OPI supports schools making



the decision to remove those mandates for the remainder of the present school year, as well as for any summer instruction programs.

We in Montana have proven that we can keep our children safe and keep them learning. We cannot enter another school year subjecting our students to any additional loss of instructional time. We also cannot perpetuate the notion that masks will be a permanent feature in our state's classrooms. I encourage you to evaluate your policies and work toward removing masks wherever possible.

It is important that our children have as normal a school experience as possible – as soon as possible. This is one way to help accomplish that objective. I sincerely hope your school districts will consider this guidance as they plan for the new school year. Thank you for putting our Montana students first. I am here to serve you if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Elsie Arntzen

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Elsie Arntzen", is written over a large, faint circular watermark or stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.



# Gallatin Gateway School -- Return to School Detail 2020-2021

## Superintendent's Recommendation: K-8 Face-to-Face Instruction

### School Reopening Plan

Cleaning and Sanitation -- This is not an inclusive list of all cleaning done in the school

Classrooms, Science Lab, Computer Lab, Library, Music Room and Art Room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nightly sanitizing of all classroom desks, tables, chair uppers, door knobs, classroom sinks, fixtures, and light switches</li><li>• Classroom computer monitors and keyboards sanitized by students after each use and 2 times per week by Custodial Services.</li><li>• Students will have regular hand washing schedules, developed by teacher -- minimum 3X per day.</li><li>• Students must wash hands immediately prior to lunch and after students have been outside for class or recess.</li><li>• Students must sanitize their hands after lunch and before recess.</li><li>• Hand sanitizer is available in every classroom.</li><li>• Learning Carrels will be cleaned each day.</li><li>• "Air Scrubbers" are installed in "Core" Classrooms and the Gymnasium -- possibility for more rooms as they become available</li></ul>
Gymnasium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students will wash hands before and after PE.</li><li>• Athletic equipment will be sanitized between groups.</li></ul>
Restrooms, Locker Rooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nightly sanitizing of toilets, urinals, sinks, counters, mirrors, soap and towel dispensers, fixtures, partition</li></ul>



# Gallatin Gateway School -- Return to School Detail 2020-2021

Restrooms, Locker Rooms Continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>walls, frames, stall doors and floors.</li> <li>Students will be reminded to wash hands with soap and water prior to leaving the restroom or locker room.</li> <li>Hand Sanitizer is also available in the restrooms.</li> </ul>
Playground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Playground equipment will be sanitized after each group.</li> <li>Students will wash their hands with soap and water upon returning from recess and prior to entering the classroom.</li> </ul>
Hallways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nightly sanitizing of all windows, benches, doors, handles and frames.</li> <li>All individuals will be asked to use hand sanitizer upon entering the building.</li> <li>Weekly sanitizing of exterior of lockers.</li> </ul>
Buses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buses will be sanitized after each route.</li> <li>Hand sanitizer available when students enter or exit the bus.</li> </ul>

## Illness prevention/Action

Mask/Cloth Face Covering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All individuals are <b>recommended</b> to wear face shields or masks in the building and on the bus</li> <li>GGS will supply every student with washable cloth face masks.</li> </ul>
Student/Staff Illness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any individual with COVID-19 symptoms should stay at home.</li> <li>Parents are asked to take their child/children's temperatures prior to boarding the bus or bringing them</li> </ul>



# Gallatin Gateway School -- Return to School Detail 2020-2021

## Student/Staff Illness Continued

to school.

- Students and staff will be required to temperature check at the start of the day, prior to lunch, and at the end of the day
- Students/Staff who indicate a fever (>99), after they have come to school, will be sent home immediately. Students waiting on parent pick-up will be isolated in a designated waiting area.
- Students/Staff should be fever free for 24 hours with improving symptoms of any illness prior to returning to school.
- **Students/Staff who have a fever of 100.4** or higher **AND** at least two other COVID-19 Symptoms will be isolated in a designated waiting area and sent home.
  - Students/Staff with a positive COVID-19 test result **or** if COVID-19 cannot be ruled out with a negative test will be asked to stay home in quarantine until it is safe to be around others, which is after 24 hours with no fever, respiratory symptoms have improved, **AND** 10 days since symptoms first appeared/positive test result.
- In the event of a positive COVID-19 staff/student case, the Public Health Nurse, in coordination with the School District, determines staff/students who will need to quarantine at home for 14 days due to exposure.



# Gallatin Gateway School -- Return to School Detail 2020-2021

School Operations- this not an all-inclusive list of all school/district operations

Student Movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students in grades K-5 will remain in their homeroom for all instruction, with the exception of PE. Teachers will come to the students.</li><li>• PE for all students will be in the Gymnasium (or outside).</li><li>• Students in Grades 6-8 will remain in their homeroom for all courses with the exception of elective classes.</li><li>• Only one grade level at a time is allowed to be in the hallways at one time. Hallway expectations will be directly taught to ensure they stay in their "Social Bubble." Distancing markers will be on the floors to facilitate.</li><li>• Floor markers will assist with helping students learn about their "Social Bubble."</li><li>• K-2 students will be using the restrooms in the classrooms.</li><li>• No more than two students at any one time will be allowed in any of the public restrooms.</li><li>• Students on Tier III Intervention will receive services in the Learning Lab.</li><li>• Students will only access hallway lockers for their coats, boots, outdoor clothing. All school materials will be in the classroom with the student.</li><li>• The playground will not be available to students before or after school.</li></ul>
Student arrival and departure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students arriving by bus enter through the West Door (as</li></ul>



# Gallatin Gateway School -- Return to School Detail 2020-2021

	<p>usual) and will immediately go to their classroom.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students arriving by drop off will enter only through the Main Entrance, <b>are recommended to wear</b> a mask or face shield to enter the building, and immediately go to their classroom</li><li>• Dismissal will be by groups, bus, car riders, walkers/bikers, extracurricular/Later Gators/Learning Lab</li><li>• Students' temperatures will be taken prior to dismissal</li><li>• Students will sanitize their hands when entering and prior to leaving the building</li><li>• We will endeavor to minimize school materials sent home</li></ul>
Classroom Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mask or Face Shields must be worn when 6 ft distancing is not possible.</li><li>• Teachers must have a static seating chart.</li><li>• All teachers will use Google Classroom.</li><li>• Class may be held outside.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Learning spaces and portable desks are available for outdoor learning.</li><li>○ Masks or face shields <b>are recommended to</b> still be worn, unless there is six feet between people.</li><li>○ Students and staff must wash hands with soap and water prior to returning to the classroom.</li></ul></li><li>• We encourage open windows to facilitate flow of fresh air. Fans have been purchased for each classroom to facilitate the bringing in of fresh air.</li><li>• Students have individual materials -- no sharing of supplies.</li><li>• Clear Carrels are assigned to each student for the year to provide additional separation, but to also allow for group work and collaboration between students.</li></ul>

Classroom Information Continued



# Gallatin Gateway School -- Return to School Detail 2020-2021

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students are assigned a specific Chromebook for the year.</li> <li>• PE lockers will only be used during 6-8 PE. K-5 students will only be allowed in the locker room to use the restroom and to wash hands.</li> </ul>
Food Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakfast and K-2 snacks will be served in the classroom. There is no Second Chance Breakfast.</li> <li>• Lunch will be served in the Cafeteria             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Only one grade level at a time allowed in Cafeteria.</li> <li>○ Students will have a static seating chart.</li> <li>○ Students are seated 2 to a table following 6ft Social Distancing guidelines.</li> <li>○ Anyone in the Cafeteria <b>is recommended to</b> wear a mask or face shield until they are seated for eating.</li> <li>○ No Self-Serve table.</li> <li>○ Cafeteria monitor will enter lunch codes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• No after-school snack cart.</li> </ul>
Athletics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Games will be live-streamed, as spectators will not be allowed</li> <li>• Protocols will follow MHSA requirements and guidance</li> </ul>
Visitors/Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents and visitors will not be allowed in the school, unless there is a face-to-face meeting for Special Education, 504, Parent/Teacher Conference or other meetings where social distancing can be practiced.</li> <li>• Volunteers with a Background check may be allowed in the school for a specific purpose.</li> </ul>
Facility Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilities will not be available for activities that are not</li> </ul>





# Gallatin Gateway School -- Return to School Detail 2020-2021

	specific to Gallatin Gateway School Activities.
Buses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seating chart will be static.</li> <li>• Social distancing will occur as much as possible.</li> <li>• Individuals <b>are recommended to</b> wear a mask or face shield when on the bus.</li> <li>• Students will sanitize hands when they enter the bus.</li> </ul>
Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Library book check-out, check in and sanitizing will follow the American Library Association guidelines.</li> </ul>
Field Trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If there is an opportunity for a field trip, Teacher(s), Parents and Administration will collaborate to develop safety protocol that follows CDC, GCHD, and State requirements.</li> </ul>
Handling of Cash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The District will not be accepting cash or checks.</li> <li>• All fees, costs, and breakfast and lunch accounts must be paid for through the District RevTrack, online pay, system.</li> <li>• Online payment fees, previously charged will be waived.</li> </ul>
Non-Resident Student Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BP 3025 is suspended during the time that the Board has the COVID-19 declared emergency in place with the exception of             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Applications for children of Gallatin Gateway District Employees</li> <li>○ Applications for siblings of current students</li> </ul> </li> </ul>