

District Updates Including Transition to 4-days on campus

Dear Parents, Staff, Students and Community Members,

Great news! Over this past week Nevada County moved to the Red Tier and updated CDC/CDPH classroom spacing guidelines were approved. While we continue to experience major shifts in COVID-19 restrictions and policies, we are adapting our programs to best support our students and community. What do these changes mean for the Grass Valley School District?

On Thursday April 8th, we will be expanding our oncampus instructional services at Bell Hill Academy, Margaret G. Scotten, and Lyman Gilmore to provide 4-days of on campus learning for students and families through the end of the school year!

*Our Grass Valley Charter Campus is already in a 4 day a week model and is working through its own instructional schedule analysis. A separate schedule update will be provided to GVCS families.

We will be offering a 4 day on campus learning program (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday) or a fully at home online learning program and we are keeping Wednesdays on the distance learning (DL) day for all students. After reviewing all options as a team, we decided that we needed to keep the Wednesday DL schedule to ensure outreach and program support for students with an emphasis on distance learners this day. While we acknowledge that some of the surrounding school districts are considering other instructional schedules, we are doing what we believe is best with the resources we have as a district.

We have been working on feasibility studies at our non-charter campuses and the results show that roughly 80%+ of students will be returning to campus. Families will be contacted by their school site to confirm their choice and instructional program commitment. To support our transition, we have developed the following transition plans:

- **Week after spring break (4/5/21-4/9/21):**
 - Monday, Tuesday Wednesday distance learning days for all students
 - Thursday, Friday on-campus learning 9am - 12:45pm
- **Week of 4/12/21 to end of school year:**
 - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday on-campus learning days 9am - 12:45pm
 - Wednesday DL schedule

Please note that moving into the 2021-22 school year our staff and school campuses will be ready for the traditional 5 full-days of on campus learning. While we anticipate that some families may still want to remain on distance learning for 2021-22, we will solicit this input later to develop a separate program with dedicated staff.

Finally, with additional shifting state and federal policies, we wanted all families to know that we will not be giving the state standardized CAASPP assessments this year. Instead, we will be giving a districtwide iReady assessment for all students TK-8 which will provide staff and families updates on current performance. This will also help us as we prepare to provide a district summer school targeted at students who need additional assistance. More information about summer school will be shared with families as we get closer to the end of the school year.

The School Board, staff and I cannot thank you enough for your continued partnership and support. We know that this school year has provided lots of challenges and changes however we are getting through them by working together! We hope your family has a terrific Spring Break and we look forward to an exciting end of the school year.

Sincerely,

Andrew Withers - Superintendent

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#gvbdbettertogether