April 2, 2020

Dear GSD Families,

As most of you know, Gov. Kemp has ordered the closure of all Georgia school systems (for in-person education) through the end of the school year. Therefore, the Georgia School for the Deaf will be closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

Unfortunately, this means that all remaining scheduled events, including our graduation ceremony and camp, must be canceled. Our Leadership Team will be reviewing options to host graduation in an alternate format to celebrate, honor and recognize our graduating seniors.

Except for our scheduled spring break (April 6-10), GSD teachers will continue to provide education via distance learning through May 20, 2020. Grading practices and expectations are being adapted to ensure equitability, and our guiding principle for these last weeks is to provide multiple learning opportunities and consistent support to students. IEPs will be scheduled with you and held following distancing guidelines.

Information about retrieving personal items from the dorms will be announced when we are cleared to do so. Visits will follow CDC distancing and safety recommendations.

I want to close by thanking you all for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns about your child’s education or services, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s teachers or any of our administrative staff. We will update you as new information is available.

Until then, stay safe and be healthy.

Sincerely,

Leslie D. Jackson

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Dear students and families,

Being separated from each other is hard! All of us at GSD miss our students and hope all of you are well. The teachers are so happy to be able to see students’ faces via technology. Staying connected is vital to everyone’s well-being during this difficult time.

If there is any way at all I can help you, please let me know. I want our families to be supported. If you need help finding meals or free/low cost internet or technology, I will try to help you get what you need.

Please keep in touch and let me know how you are doing!!

Take care,

Marie Dickinson

Family Engagement Coordinator
Congratulations to all of our Honor Roll and Perfect Attendance awardees for Third Quarter! Keep up the great work—we are proud of you!


College and Career Academy: Raymond, DeMarco, Jared with Superintendent Jackson.

Middle School: Daiva’nte (and one other student not pictured)

Wow! All these students have perfect attendance through third quarter!
**At-Home Learning**

The GSD campus may be closed, but that doesn’t mean our students have stopped learning! Thanks to technology, the US Mail, creative teachers, and supportive families, our tigers are learning from home! The connection via technology means a lot to our students, families, and teachers during this time of isolation!

Miracle is happy to connect with teacher Mallory Edge.

Jackie’s cat joins the conversation with Raymond, Patrick and teacher Mallory Edge!

A student shows their work to the teacher via Zoom.

Alex works on his math skills with teacher Tiffany Brown.

Alex’s mom, Christine Mullican, checks in with his teacher, Tiffany Brown.

Teacher Loren Frick and his students Braydence and Diego sign “ILY.”
Upcoming Events

- 4/6-10 Spring Break (no distance learning)

Hope to see you next year!

CANCELED ASL IMMERSION CAMP WILL NOT BE HELD DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

WE ARE DISAPPOINTED NOT TO HAVE THE CAMP, BUT SAFETY IS MOST IMPORTANT. REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE A REFUND.

Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much. 
~Helen Keller
SLIME!

Elementary students in Jamie Saunders’ Art classes made slime! Looks like fun!

Abe holds up hands covered in blue slime.

Octavious grabs a handful while Bryce shows off his slime-covered ILY hands.

Kennedy smiles with a handful of slime.

Tony and Braydence work together to mix the pink slime.

Amaya stretches out the slime.

Hayden grabs handfuls of white slime.