Return to Campus Plan

After a thorough evaluation of GSD’s status regarding health and safety, it has been decided that all students will be on campus for in-person learning beginning Monday, October 19, 2020. We have received approval for this decision from the Georgia Department of Education. The last day of distance learning will be Friday, October 16, 2020.

Many factors were taken into consideration when making this decision. GSD has had zero instances of students or staff testing positive for COVID-19. As described in GSD’s “COVID-19 School Safety Guidelines,” GSD has successfully implemented social distancing measures, temperature and self-screening checks, and mask requirements in specific situations (transitions between classes, one-on-one assistance from a teacher, etc.).

This success would not be possible without the impressive cooperation of our students and families. Our families have been supportive and have set expectations for their children. The students follow the health and safety guidelines in the classrooms, cafeteria, dorms, and other campus areas faithfully.

Of course, none of this would be possible without our incredible teachers and staff. Every one of them has gone the extra mile in not only making the GSD campus as safe as possible, but in educating and caring for their students both in person and virtually—not an easy task!

We are very grateful for the efforts of everyone involved—our students, our families, and our staff.

Residential transportation for all dorm students will run on Sunday, October 18th as usual. We look forward to having all our Tigers back “home” on October 19th!

Fun with Geography

Lower Elementary students in Kaylyn Nix’s Social Studies classes have been studying physical maps and landforms. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students have made various maps depicting the different landforms they learned. These hands-on activities are great for younger students, as they can both see and feel differences in topography. Great work!

Waylon used different colors of clay to represent mountains, desert, the coast, and plains. There are ASL labels for each area.

Good pals Layla and Allie Kate smile as they show off their desert landforms. There are even little cacti! And is that…a snake??

Third graders Sinclare, Bryce, and Markayla used chocolate drops for the Rocky Mountains and M&Ms for the Appalachians on their maps. Students in 3rd grade learn the names and locations of important US physical features.
Foundations for Literacy: Popcorn!

Foundations for Literacy is an early intervention program designed specifically for deaf and hard of hearing children. In a recent lesson, Lower Elementary students in Jamie Anderson’s ELA classes participated in a fun and delicious activity. First, they read a short story about a family making popcorn. Then they created a plan that used key words such as first, next, and last using words and pictures. Then they followed the plan and made popcorn in the microwave! The lesson also emphasized correct ASL features, such as mouth morphemes and facial expressions for flat and puff up. Then they ate the yummy popcorn! Munch and Learn!

Jamie A. asks her students what they need to do next in their popcorn plan.

Get To Know GSD’s Residential Staff!

**Santana Hollingshed**

Santana is an RA for 3rd-7th grade girls. She is also a mom who has two kids (Markayla and Le’Ondre) at GSD! She has worked at GSD for 9 months. She is from Rock Island, Illinois and is from a big Deaf family on her mom’s side! She and her relatives all graduated from the Illinois School for the Deaf. She has a puppy named Mixie. She enjoys visiting back home in Illinois, as it is great to reunite with family and friends.

Upcoming Events

- Thurs 10/15 Flu shots
- Fri 10/16 5th grade Fire Safety
- Fri 10/16 End Quarter 1
- Mon 10/19 On-campus learning for all students resumes
As part of their study of heat transfer, 8th graders in Tiffany Hebert’s Science class made solar ovens. They used pizza boxes, foil, and plastic wrap to create the oven, then set up the ovens outside in the sun to make s’mores! They had to identify the different types of heat transfer used in the activity: conduction (chocolate touching the graham cracker), convection (air inside the oven rises as it warms), and radiation (the sun’s rays shining into the oven). Lots of tasty learning at GSD!

Have a new phone number? New address? Don’t forget to let us know! It is critical that we have current contact information for all our students. You can contact Beth Bell in Student Services at 678-710-8983 or ebell@doe.k12.ga.us with your updated info.
The flu shot will be available at GSD on Thursday 15 October at 10 am. If you want your child to be vaccinated against the flu (highly recommended), please complete this form and return it to the school.
Middle School Math

Who says math isn’t fun?!? Students in Tiffany Brown’s 6th grade Math class played a Quizziz game where they had to solve proportions to earn points.

Left: Amaya and Kennedy focus on the game.

Right: Tony, Abe, and Kendrilyn use calculators to solve the problems.

Small class sizes allow for social distancing!
Camp Juliena Journey
Looking for something fun to do on Saturdays? Check out Camp Juliena Journeys! Camp Juliena, a summer camp for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students provided by the Georgia Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, is offering innovative new ways for families to engage in fun, Deaf-friendly activities virtually. Be sure to register at the website on the flyer for these fun events!

Video Phones and Video Relay
Did you know that people who are deaf can get a FREE video phone (VP)? If you don’t already have one in your home, please apply for one! The only requirement is high speed internet. With a VP, you can receive and make calls just like with a regular phone—but a video relay interpreter is there on the screen to facilitate communication if one of the callers is hearing. Having and knowing how to use a VP is also important for safety—your child could use it to call for help if needed. There are several VP providers—Sorenson, Purple, Convo (Deaf-owned), ZVRS—and they also have apps to use on the phone! Contact Marie if you need more information.

https://www.sorenson.com/

https://www.purplevrs.com/

https://www.zvrs.com/

https://www.convorelay.com/
**STEM: Balloon-Powered Cars**

Middle School STEM students Adaivun (left) and Alex (right) made cool balloon-powered cars in Chad Moore’s (center) class! The cars worked and Adaivun won the race (though Chad’s car got disqualified due to a burst balloon!). Check out the videos of the cars in action on Facebook and Twitter! You’ll get a good laugh watching the race!

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**GSD**

Darison, in protective gear, uses a power washer in the washout booth to remove emulsion from a previous design.

After spreading one coat of emulsion on the screens in the exposure room, Nolan returns the extra emulsion to its container.

Using a tool, Jackie patiently weeds the unwanted vinyl from the GSD logo.

**Apparel**

Rusia removes background images from a design on a laptop.

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The GSD Apparel screen printing class is going full steam ahead with making the items you have all ordered this fall! Loren Frick started GSD Apparel and teaches the class. His students learn all aspects of the process. This year they added a cricut machine so they can make a wider variety of merchandise. It is a great skill for students to learn and they can take pride in making GSD and Deaf Pride merchandise for their families, friends, and the public!

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Have you filled out the School-Parent Compact and Family Engagement Policy Feedback Survey yet? If you have—thank you so much! If not, please do!

Each year, GSD revises these documents and we can only do it with YOUR help! You can complete the short survey in English or Spanish at [https://www.gsdweb.org/domain/2065](https://www.gsdweb.org/domain/2065).

Thank you for your time and opinions!
Mikaela Shimko’s 5th grade students have learned about the cattle trails as part of westward expansion in Social Studies. To get an idea of how hard the cowboys worked, the students learned to throw a lasso! The rare Red Spool Cattle (native to GSD campus) are tricky to lasso, but they couldn’t outsmart the 5th grade Cowboys and Cowgirl!

Way to go, 4th and 5th grades! They earned 10 Peace Days as part of PBIS and got an ice cream treat before homegoing last Friday. Keep up the great work!

Pictured: Octavious (left) and Xander smile with their popsicles.