



Phase III COVID-19 Mitigation Health Plan  
Gloucester County Public Schools

Original August 27, 2020  
Updated October 22, 2021  
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## COVID-19 Team

### Executive Leadership Team

Superintendent- Dr. Walter Clemons	(804) 693-1425
Assistant Superintendent- Dr. Chuck Wagner	(804) 693-4795
Chief Financial Officer- Heather Lucas	(804) 693-7811
Executive Director of Operations- Bryan Hartley	(804) 693-5304
Executive Director of Human Resources and Compliance- Rachel Blankenship	(804) 693-5300

### Division Leadership Team

Director Food Services- Steve Patton	(804) 693-3585
Director Transportation- Tanya Deckard	(804) 693-2127
Manager Facilities- Dave Miller	(804) 693-1207
Manager/Foreman Grounds- Jimmy Viars	(804) 693-1206
Manager Construction-Scott Shorland	(804) 693-6961
Director of Nursing/Safety- Lisa Jones, MSN, RN, NCSN	(804) 693-6240
Coordinator of Operations/Safety- Craig Smith	(804) 693-7927

### Principals

#### Elementary

Abingdon- Anna Harwood	(804) 642-9885
Achilles- Kelley Gray	(804) 642-9140
Bethel- Eileen Kersmarki	(804) 693-2360
Botetourt Felicia Hudgins	(804) 693-2151
Petsworth Gwendolyn Wallace	(804) 693-6161

#### Middle

Page- Sharon Hendrix	(804) 693-2540
Peasley- Dr. Craig Reed	(804) 693-1499

#### High

Gloucester High School- Dr. Stefan Mygas	(804) 693-2526
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## **Local Health Department Contacts**

3 Rivers Health District  
Virginia Department of Health  
2780 General Puller Hwy  
Saluda, Va. 23149  
Phone 804-758-2381 Fax 804-0758-4828

District Director- Dr. Richard S. Williams, MD, MPH  
[richard.williams@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:richard.williams@vdh.virginia.gov)  
Phone 804-758-2381 Fax 804-758-4828

District Epidemiologist- Phillip Carr, MPH  
[phillip.carr@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:phillip.carr@vdh.virginia.gov)  
804-769-4988 Fax: 804-769-2155

Emergency Preparedness Coordinator- Matt Carpentier  
[matthew.carpentier@vdh.virginia.gov](mailto:matthew.carpentier@vdh.virginia.gov)  
(804) 758-2381 ext. 34

## **Local Public Health Conditions**

Gloucester County Public Schools is committed in providing a safe and healthy environment for students and staff. GCPS will remain in close contact and seek guidance from the Three Rivers Health Department while implementing transitions of the health plan. Mitigation strategies and in-person instruction will be modified as needed to limit the risk of COVID-19 exposure. At present, our community is experiencing a moderate transmission of COVID-19.

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-daily-dashboard/>

## **Health Screenings**

### Screening of Employees/Coaches/Substitutes/Volunteers/Visitors

Will continue with the daily COVID-19 screening by completing the google survey and temperature screening. If one is aware that they are ill or not able to answer “no” to all questions, they should not come to school and notify their supervisor.

### Screening of Students

Students will be assessed daily for symptoms by their parent/guardian before being sent to school. If the student appears to be ill or has a temperature greater than 100.4, the student will need to stay home and follow the return to school guidelines. The parent/guardian should contact the school nurse to discuss symptoms and a return to school plan if guidance is needed.

Teachers may ask that the school nurse evaluate a student if they appear to be unwell. Parent/Guardian will be made aware of the clinic visit.

## **Daily Screening Questions**

Students should not attend school if the parent/guardian can answer “yes” for themselves, the student, or any member of the household the following questions in relation to the last 14 days

Have you or your child traveled outside the U.S.?

Have you or your child been diagnosed, presumed positive, lived with, or cared for someone with COVID-19?

Have you or a member of your household had cold, flu-like, or respiratory illness symptoms?  
COVID-19 Symptoms include:

Cough	Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
Chills	Muscle pain
Sore throat	New loss of taste or smell
Diarrhea	Congestion or runny nose
Nausea	Vomiting

Fever (temperature greater than 100.4, or when one feels warm to the touch or gives a history of feeling feverish)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/symptom-screening.html>

## **Positive Covid-19 Screening**

If the employee answers “yes” to any of the above screening questions, and building access is denied:

### Employee

- Return to their vehicle or remain home (if symptoms are identified prior to arrival)
- Inform their immediate supervisor that access to the building was denied
- Call Lydia Gilbert, Payroll Specialist (804) 693-7835

### Supervisor

- Will determine the employee’s ability to work remotely or need to use leave time.
- Notify the Director of Nursing with the employee’s name and phone number.

### Director of Nursing

- Will contact the employee during the same business day to further assess the COVID-19 screening.
- Will advise the employee to contact their primary care provider if applicable.

### Payroll Specialist

- Will communicate with employee’s supervisors if there is a need to adjust employee’s schedule.
- Will initiate the process for COVID leave if appropriate.

## **Resources for COVID-19 information, testing and vaccinations**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Virginia Department of Health <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>

3 Rivers VDH Office 804-313-1638

Virginia Health Department Hotline (877)-ASK-VDH3 (877)-275-8343

Velocity Urgent Care – Gloucester

5659 Parkway Drive Suite 100

Gloucester, Va. 23061

No Copay for COVID-19 testing

Make an apt <https://www.clockwisemd.com/hospitals/273/appointments/new>

Vaccinations

<https://vaccinate.virginia.gov/>

## **Return to class/work after COVID-19 illness**

GCPS will align their return to class/work procedures with current guidance from the

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/end-home-isolation.html>

Virginia Department of Health, and the  
<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/coronavirus/what-to-do-if-you-have-confirmed-or-suspected-coronavirus-disease-covid-19/>

Department of Labor and Industry.  
<https://www.doli.virginia.gov/covid-19-site-reference-material/>

## **COVID-19 positive employee or student**

### Employee

- If an employee has COVID-19, the Director of Nursing will interview the employee for a list of close contacts. Those identified to have been within 6 feet of them for longer than 15minutes.
- Close contacts will be verbally notified that they have been exposed to a person who has COVID-19.
- The payroll specialist will initiate COVID-19 leave if necessary.
- The Three Rivers Health District will receive names and contact information of those identified as close contacts. The health department will make contact with these individuals and monitor them throughout their quarantine period.
- The Three Rivers Health District will also follow the employee who is COVID positive and provide a return to work letter after their isolation period.
- Once all close contacts have been notified, employees, students, and their families of the respective school will receive notification via email if close contacts were identified. All cases will be accounted for on the GCPS COVID-19 dashboard. Link below.

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KeuoKX3-88naiA4jHPndbgks9mLeagt9J1oF\\_LnRavY/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KeuoKX3-88naiA4jHPndbgks9mLeagt9J1oF_LnRavY/edit?usp=sharing)

### Student

- If a student is reported to have been diagnosed with COVID-19, the school nurse will notify the Director of Nursing and the Administrator.
- The School Nurse will contact the parent/guardian to confirm.
- The School Nurse will work with Teachers to identify close contacts. The student may also be interviewed if appropriate.
- Additional interviews with Resource Teachers, Support Staff, or Coaches may also be necessary to identify close contacts.

- Verbal contact will be made to parents/guardians of those identified as close contacts.
- The Three Rivers Health District will receive names and contact information of those identified as close contacts. The health department will make contact with these individuals and monitor them throughout their quarantine period.
- The Three Rivers Health District will also follow the student who is COVID positive and provide a return to school letter after their isolation period.
- Once all close contacts have been notified, employees, students, and their families of the respective school will receive notification via email if close contacts were identified. All cases will be accounted for on the GCPS COVID-19 dashboard. Link below.

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KeuoKX3-88naiA4jHPndbgks9mLeagt9J1oF\\_LnRavY/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1KeuoKX3-88naiA4jHPndbgks9mLeagt9J1oF_LnRavY/edit?usp=sharing)

**Close Contacts/Quarantine**

A “Close Contact” is defined as a person within **6 feet** of someone who is COVID-19 positive, for a total of 15 minutes or more, over a period of 24 hours, or having direct contact with respiratory secretions of a COVID-19 positive individual.

**Exception:** In the K-12 school setting to include the school bus, the minimum distancing guidelines for students are reduced for the purpose of identifying a close contact: a student who is within **3-6 feet** of another student who is COVID-19 positive *is no longer considered a close contact*, as long as both the infected and exposed students wore a well-fitting mask the entire time. The exception does NOT apply to the following:

- Teachers, staff, or other adults (6 feet of distance remains the standard)
- Pre-school or Childcare (6 feet of distance remains the standard)

**Identifying a Student-to-Student Close Contact**

Setting	Less than 3 feet between students	3-6 feet between students*	Greater than 6 feet between students
Indoor/Outdoor and School Buses in K-12 setting	Regardless of masking, spending more than 15 minutes less than 3 feet apart is considered close contact	<p>If only one student is wearing a mask: this is considered close contact</p> <p>If neither student is wearing a mask: this is considered close contact</p> <p>If BOTH students are wearing masks correctly and for the entire duration of contact: This is not considered close contact</p>	This does not count as close contact. Mask use is not considered when determining close contact exposure.

\*The exception to a close contact definition only applies to student-to-student exposures in K-12 settings. The exception does not apply to student-to-teacher exposures, teacher-to-student exposures, or teacher-to-teacher exposures. For those exposures, being within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period is considered close contact.

**Students and Staff Identified as a Close Contact in a School Setting**

Is the exposed individual fully vaccinated?*	
If YES	If NO, Then quarantine...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If no symptoms appear, no need to quarantine</li> <li>• Wear a mask in all public indoor settings for 14 days or until you receive a negative test result</li> <li>• A COVID-19 test is recommended between 3-5 days after exposure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following close contact with a member outside your household, the following quarantine periods are acceptable:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ After 7 days with a negative PCR or antigen test performed on or after Day 5 (no symptoms)</li> <li>○ After 10 days following exposure</li> <li>○ After 14 days (preferred)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

\*Exposed children, without symptoms, who recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months are not required to quarantine or get tested.

**Additional Information for COVID-19 Exposure or Diagnosis**

- All notifications of a student seeking testing, presumed or confirmed positive, should be immediately relayed to the school nurse. If the school nurse is not available, information should be passed to the Director of Nursing.
- All reports of an employee seeking testing, presumed or confirmed positive, should be immediately relayed to the Director of Nursing.
- Employees and/or students are encouraged to contact their Medical Provider during the quarantine/isolation period if they develop symptoms or have concerns.
- During a quarantine/isolation period, a negative COVID test does not change the required length of time to be physically absent from work or school.
- A negative COVID test is not required to return to work/school.
- HIPAA information is protected for all

**COVID-19 Transmission**

Precautions for respiratory droplets that pass through the air by way of an infected persons nose or mouth while doing things like speaking, sneezing, or coughing.	Airborne	Droplet
Definition	Smaller respiratory droplets that remain suspended in the air for a longer length of time (hours) and can infect others who are further than 6 feet away.	Larger respiratory droplets that drop from the air within minutes and within a 6 foot distance of the infected person.
Examples	Tuberculosis, Measles	COVID-19
PPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N95 fit-tested mask or Powered Air Purifying Respirator</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General public- cloth face cover</li> <li>• Medical or identified employees- surgical mask</li> </ul>
Mitigation Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of negative pressure rooms</li> <li>• Isolation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep 6 feet of distance</li> <li>• Limit time of exposure, less than 15 minutes</li> <li>• Frequent hand washing</li> <li>• Disinfecting commonly touched surfaces</li> </ul>

**Absenteeism**

- Staff absenteeism will be monitored through the Frontline Management System. Administration will review daily staff absences and work with the school nurse to track trends related to illness.
- Student absenteeism will be monitored through the electronic student record, Power School. School nurses will review daily. Student and staff visits to the clinic will be documented in the electronic health record, School Health. School nurses will also document the reason for absenteeism in Health Office. Noting if the absences are related to COVID-19 like symptoms or diagnoses.
- Utilize the Confirmed with COVID-19 Process flow chart to help disseminate communication.

**Reduction/Closure of schools**

GCPS will work directly with the local Health Department to determine when a reduction in class size or school closure is necessary. GCPS will also collaborate with the VDH to confirm positive cases and aid in contact tracing.

**Health Services**

- All clinic spaces will be arranged to service well students or staff and sick students or staff.
- A COVID-19 suspected isolation area will be designated for students or staff.
- School clinics will limit the use of space to nursing-related services only.
- Restrooms will only be available for students or staff who have a medical reason to be in the clinic.
- Clinic supplies will be of use only by the nurse or their designee, including ice.
- Nebulizer treatments, such as Albuterol (asthma rescue medication), will not be administered.
- Asthma Action Plans will need to include medications that can be administered through a meter dose inhaler and spacer.

School nurses will review and utilize

#### COVID-19 IN VIRGINIA SCHOOLS

School Health Services

Recovery Plan Resource for K-12

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/schools-workplaces-community-locations/k-12-education/>

Multisystem inflammatory syndrome

<https://www.cdc.gov/mis-c/hcp/>

### **Mental Health**

School Counselors and School Psychologists will be available to assist as needed with the mental health needs of students and staff. Services may be available via the phone, in-person, or virtually.

All employees will be assigned the following Safe School Module

- Student Mental Health: Awareness, Intervention, and Referral

### **Division Wide COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies**

- Social distancing to the greatest extent possible.
- All classrooms and instructional spaces in GCPS should be set up to accommodate a minimum of **3 feet** of physical distance between students. Any classroom or instructional space that is unable to meet this minimum requirement needs to be justified and documented. Any setting that is less than 3 feet should be brought to the attention of Building Administration and will be provided to the Executive Director of Human Resources and Director of Nursing for further consideration.
- All student desks should face in one direction whenever feasible.
- Student desks should not be clustered together into groups that would result in less than 3 feet of physical distance. Extenuating circumstances, as stated above, for less than 3 feet should follow the provided protocol.

- Seating charts must be established for each classroom, and should be shared with the building administration and the nursing staff. These seating charts need to remain updated in the event of change.
- Elementary classes that switch classrooms should maintain the same seating chart across all classrooms, including resource classes, whenever feasible.
- Outdoor spaces should be used often, especially during meal times when physical distancing might not be possible. Conditions permitting, the use of outdoor spaces is recommended for music, band, and chorus.

### **Hand washing/hand sanitizer**

- Wash your hands often.
- Use warm water and soap, scrubbing for at least 20 seconds.
- Use hand sanitizer with an alcohol content greater than 60% when water and soap are not available.

Hand washing should be done before every meal, after using the restroom, coughing, sneezing, blowing your nose, and any time the hands are visibly dirty. Upon entry and prior to exit.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/hand-hygiene.html>

### **Cloth face coverings**

The CDC estimates that “viral shedding” of the disease can happen 2-14 days prior to showing symptoms. This means that a person who is without symptoms can still infect or pass on the disease to others. One route of disease transmission occurs when respiratory droplets spread by coughing, sneezing, or talking leave the infected person and enter the nose, mouth, or eyes of those in close proximity. Wearing a face covering will help to keep your germs from spreading and potentially affecting others.

### **Face Covering Guidelines**

- Made of cotton fabric and fit snugly to the face, covering the nose and mouth.
- Remains breathable without restriction of air.
- Laundered after use in hot water and dried on a medium to high temperature.
- Put on and taken off with clean hands, touching only the ear loops or ties. Once removed, place immediately into the washer or a sealable bag to be laundered ASAP, and wash hands properly.
- All employees/volunteers/students are expected to supply their own face covering.

Following the CDC guidance on face coverings, it will now be a GCPS **requirement** for face coverings to be worn at all times with the following exceptions:

- Eating
- Napping
- In the gymnasium or auditorium, where everyone is distanced by 10 feet or more, and no one is moving about.

- Outdoors
- When it is required to play a musical instrument by mouth, and 10 feet or more of distance has been ensured.
- If the person is unable to physically remove the mask themselves or under the age of two.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

[https://www.governor.virginia.gov/media/governorvirginiagov/executive-actions/EO-79-and-Order-of-Public-Health-Emergency-Ten-Ending-of-Commonsense-Public-Health-Restrictions-Due-to-Novel-Coronavirus\(COVID-19\).pdf](https://www.governor.virginia.gov/media/governorvirginiagov/executive-actions/EO-79-and-Order-of-Public-Health-Emergency-Ten-Ending-of-Commonsense-Public-Health-Restrictions-Due-to-Novel-Coronavirus(COVID-19).pdf)

### **Personal Protective Equipment**

When a face cover is not ideal for job function, a face shield should be used. These situations would include speech therapy, working with the hearing impaired, or times when reading lips is required. Additional PPE will be provided as job duties require. This could include a face shield, surgical mask, N95, gown, gloves, partition, and or safety glasses.

### **Staff Training**

All staff will complete the following online modules through Safe Schools

- Coronavirus Awareness
- Coronavirus: Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Workplace

Supervisors will review how COVID-19 has changed job functions and procedures with each employee.

### **Fieldtrips**

No field trips until further notice

### **Volunteers**

No indoor volunteers.

### **Custodial Cleaning Regimen (Phase III)**

A daily comprehensive cleaning regimen remains in effect. Commonly touched surfaces will be disinfected frequently. Custodial staff have been provided with cleaning and disinfecting schedules specific for each location and shift. The cleaning regimen will be monitored by means of no notice and unscheduled inspections.

### **Transportation Return to School Plan**

- When feasible, students from the same household will be seated together while on GCPS transportation. This will assist in limiting the spread of COVID-19.
- Each school bus driver must submit seating charts to the Director of Transportation. These seating charts need to remain updated in the event of change.
- Students sitting less than three feet (sharing a seat) from a COVID-19 positive student or sitting less than six feet from a COVID-19 positive employee for more than 15 minutes will be identified as a close contact.

## Dietary

### Elementary & Middle School – Phase II- Meals to Classroom

#### Elementary School Phase II

##### Breakfast

- Breakfast will be 1 entrée options to choose from each day, packaged as a reimbursable meal w/ fruit & or juice & milk
- Students receive meals through the serving line (**OR**) in a designated serving area and return to classroom for dining (**OR**) eat in small groups in designated areas: Cafeteria, Hallways, auditorium, gymnasium or outside
- Added time in schedule to insure proper cleaning of all touched areas cleaning/disinfecting of all touched areas according to the custodial cleaning regiment.

##### Lunch

- Homeroom teacher to place lunch order by certain cut off time
- Offer 1 Hot entrée or 1 Cold Entrée w/ vegetable, fruit & milk available
- Students receive meals through the serving line (**OR**) in a designated serving area and return to classroom for dining (**OR**) eat in small groups in designated areas: Cafeteria, Hallways, auditorium, gymnasium or outside
- Meals served must be covered (bag or box, no open trays)
- Added time in schedule to insure proper cleaning of all touched areas cleaning/disinfecting of all touched areas according to the custodial cleaning regiment.

#### Middle School Phase II

##### Breakfast

- Breakfast will be 1 entrée options to choose from each day, packaged as a reimbursable meal w/ fruit & or juice & milk
- Students receive meals through the serving line (**OR**) in a designated serving area and return to classroom for dining (**OR**) eat in small groups in designated areas: Cafeteria, Hallways, auditorium, gymnasium or outside
- Added time in schedule to insure proper cleaning of all touched areas cleaning/disinfecting of all touched areas according to the custodial cleaning regiment.

### Lunch

- Homeroom teacher to place lunch order by certain cut off time
- Offer 1 Hot entrée or 1 Cold Entrée w/ vegetable, fruit & milk available
- Students receive meals through the serving line (**OR**) in a designated serving area and return to classroom for dining (**OR**) eat in small groups in designated areas: Cafeteria, Hallways, auditorium, gymnasium or outside
- Meals served must be covered (bag or box, no open trays)
- Added time in schedule to insure proper cleaning of all touched areas cleaning/disinfecting of all touched areas according to the custodial cleaning regiment.
- Model may allow for minimal à la carte sale

### High School Phase II

#### Breakfast

- 1 entrée options to choose from each day, packaged as a reimbursable meal
- Students receive meals in a designated serving and return to classroom for dining
- 

#### Lunch

- Offer 1 Hot entrée or 1 Cold Entrée w/ vegetable, fruit & milk available
- Students receive meals in a designated serving and return to classroom for dining
- Meals served must be covered (bag or box, no open trays)
- Added time in schedule to insure proper cleaning of all touched areas cleaning/disinfecting of all touched areas according to the custodial cleaning regiment.
- Model may allow for minimal à la carte sale

### All schools- Phase III- Cafeteria Seating

#### Cafeteria seating

- Added time in schedule to insure proper cleaning/disinfecting of all touched areas according to the custodial cleaning regiment.
- Control traffic flow thru school scheduling to minimize amount of students in cafeteria
- Breakfast will include 1-3 entrée options to allow students to select meal components: protein, vegetable, fruit, grain, milk
- Lunch will include 1-3 entrée options to allow students to select meal components: protein, vegetable, fruit, grain, milk
- Eating in designated areas in cafeteria
- Eating in small groups in designated areas (**OR**)
- Outside areas
- Other open spaces

#### Menu: Keep It Simple!

- One hot entrée and one cold entrée

- Cycle menu, keep it short
- Simple menu cycle
- Blended models may reduce the number of menu days
- Streamlines inventory and staff production

### **Human Resources**

- Establish and enforce sick policies to prevent the spread of disease, including:  
Enforcing staff staying home if sick.  
Encouraging liberal use of sick leave policy.
- Establish and encourage liberal use of sick days for students and discontinue attendance-dependent awards and ratings.
- Develop plans for backfilling positions of employees on sick leave and consider cross-training to allow for changes of staff duties.
- Employees who are identified as high risk under the CDC guidelines should communicate directly with human resources to discuss their needs.

Vulnerable populations includes those who

- Underlying medical conditions, especially if not well controlled
- Chronic lung disease  
COPD, Moderate to Severe Asthma
- Serious heart conditions/diseases
- Immunocompromised
  - those who are receiving cancer treatments
  - Smoking (Cigarettes, Cigars, Vaping, etc.)
  - Bone marrow or organ transplant recipient
  - immune deficiencies
  - HIV/AIDS, if poorly controlled
  - Prolonged use of corticosteroids
  - Taking immune weakening medications
  - Severe obesity (body mass index 40 or higher)
  - Diabetic
  - Chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
  - Liver disease
- Increasing age

### **Budget & Finance**

<https://www.dhrm.virginia.gov/covid-19>

### **HVAC & Water**

- HVAC systems are inspected and cleaned routinely. The systems are not HEPPA filter compatible, however are set to consume the highest level of outside air possible to

circulate air within the building at an optimal level. Preventative maintenance and routine upkeep is maintained through a Honeywell contract.

- Water systems throughout the school division have remained on. Water quality testing continues as previously scheduled, either weekly, biweekly or monthly.

### **Community Response Efforts**

- GCPS will assist with a community response by utilizing their facilities and resources, as they are available.

### **Athletic Plan**

- Athletic employees, coaches, and approved staff will complete the daily COVID screener.
- Student athletes will be screened by their parent/guardian prior to practice or competition following the academic guidelines.
- Coaches will keep a daily roster and will work with the Athletic Director to contact trace in the event of a COVID-19 positive student athlete.
- Equipment will be disinfected frequently and upon completion of event.
- Social distancing will be encouraged for employees and for student athletes when they are not actively participating in practice or competition.

### **Mask**

Indoors- Mask will be worn by noncompeting players, coaches, support staff, and spectators at all times.

Outdoors- Mask are not required.

### **Additional Guidance from the CDC related to transmission**

Below are statements taken directly from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website. Note the mitigation strategies instituted by GCPS are deemed to be effective. Social distancing proves to be key. HVAC systems are inspected and cleaned routinely. The systems are not HEPPA filter compatible. However, are set to consume the highest level of outside air possible to circulate air within the building at an optimal level. Preventative maintenance and routine upkeep is maintained through a Honeywell contract.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/scientific-brief-sars-cov-2.html>

The epidemiology of SARS-CoV-2 indicates that most infections are spread through close contact, not airborne transmission.

Diseases that are spread efficiently through airborne transmission tend to have high attack rates because they can quickly reach and infect many people in a short period of time. We know that a significant proportion of SARS-CoV-2 infections (estimated 40-45%) occur without symptoms and that infection can be spread by people showing no symptoms. Thus, were SARS-CoV-2 spread primarily through airborne transmission like measles, experts would expect to have observed considerably more rapid global spread of infection in early 2020 and higher percentages of prior infection measured by serosurveys. Available data indicate that SARS-CoV-2 has spread more like most other common respiratory viruses, primarily through respiratory droplet transmission within a short range (e.g., less than six feet). There is no evidence of efficient spread (i.e., routine, rapid spread) to people far away or who enter a space hours after an infectious person was there.

Airborne transmission of SARS-CoV-2 can occur under special circumstances

Pathogens that are mainly transmitted through close contact (i.e., contact transmission and droplet transmission) can sometimes also be spread via airborne transmission under special circumstances. There are several well-documented examples in which SARS-CoV-2 appears to have been transmitted over long distances or times. These transmission events appear uncommon and have typically involved the presence of an infectious person producing respiratory droplets for an extended time (>30 minutes to multiple hours) in an enclosed space. Enough virus was present in the space to cause infections in people who were more than 6 feet away or who passed through that space soon after the infectious person had left. Circumstances under which airborne transmission of SARS-CoV-2 appears to have occurred include:

- **Enclosed spaces** within which an infectious person either exposed susceptible people at the same time or to which susceptible people were exposed shortly after the infectious person had left the space.
- **Prolonged exposure to respiratory particles**, often generated with expiratory exertion (e.g., shouting, singing, exercising) that increased the concentration of suspended respiratory droplets in the air space.
- **Inadequate ventilation or air handling** that allowed a build-up of suspended small respiratory droplets and particles.

## Prevention of COVID-19 by airborne transmission

Existing interventions to prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2 appear sufficient to address transmission both through close contact and under the special circumstances favorable to potential airborne transmission. Among these interventions, which include social distancing, use of masks in the community, hand hygiene, and surface cleaning and disinfection, ventilation and avoidance of crowded indoor spaces are especially relevant for enclosed spaces, where circumstances can increase the concentration of suspended small droplets and particles carrying infectious virus. At this time, there is no indication of a general community need to use special engineering controls, such as those required to protect against airborne transmission of infections, like measles or tuberculosis, in the healthcare setting.

### **Resources**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/index.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html>