

Grand Peak Academy Return to Learning - Fall 2020

Please click to make your educational selection: <https://forms.gle/2f93VJfEReXPrwVu5>

First Day of School changed to Monday, 8/10 Per D-49 and GPA Board determinations

Grand Peak Academy is creating detailed plans for multiple educational scenarios for the fall. While our goal is to have all students in-person on campus this fall to the greatest extent possible, we will adhere to public health, governmental, and district requirements. Please know that if the Governor, Health Department, or district requires schools to stop in-person opportunities, all students will switch to the remote/online option described below for the period of time required.

GPA is investigating physical distancing best practices, but parents should expect that in-person learning will involve all staff members wearing masks, students strongly encouraged to wear masks or face shields when possible, temperature checks across the day if necessary, increased hand washing and sanitizing procedures, no sharing of materials, no locker use, and possible extended student absences required for any sickness that mimics COVID-19 symptoms. These requirements may change as the evolving virus situation changes.

While we know there are differing opinions regarding the necessity or effectiveness of these measures, and we understand that parents may follow different practices at home, we feel that in the interests of our community as a whole, we must do everything possible while students are in the building or on the grounds to allow schools to remain open, to allow our children to interact as safely as possible, for as long as possible.

Staffing for the below scenarios will depend on the number of students requesting that option.

Thus we will need all parents to fill out the Google Form by 7/16, indicating which learning option you intend to sign up for, knowing you are signing up for a quarter-long (through October 2) commitment to that option. The form is located at:

<https://forms.gle/2f93VJfEReXPrwVu5>. Descriptions of each opportunity are below.

Please note, because students will not be able to attend school if they are showing COVID-19 symptoms, have an illness that mimics COVID-19, have a fever of 100.4 or higher, or have a family member who has the virus, there are likely to be more days of missed school this year. In order to prevent students from falling behind, we will be running live-streamed classes on Google Meet, which will entail having cameras live streaming during class. Parents have signed permission for the Google educational suite, which includes permission for Google Meet. NOTE: Google Meet live-stream is a private stream for each classroom, not broadcast anywhere that the outside public can view. Livestream attendees must be registered as students of GPA. If you feel you need to opt your child out from being present on video during these live streaming opportunities for families with sick children (of which your child may at some point across the year be one), you may do so also on the Google form.

Frequently Asked Questions: For frequently asked questions, please the Facebook Live presentation: <https://www.facebook.com/grandpeakacademy/videos/1034340616968605/>

GPA will be offering two learning options: Full-time in-person learning K-8 and Livestreaming classes for *virtual* in-person learning K-8.

In-Person Learning (K-8)

Knowing that in-person learning is vital for our students' socioemotional and academic success, GPA will be offering five days a week of in-person learning for students in PreK-8. We will focus on cohorting/grouping students in order to limit the spread of the virus, with physical distancing implemented to the greatest extent possible.

- In elementary school, this will mean most of the day will be spent in students' homeroom classroom, including lunch and possibly "specials" classes. Interaction between or among classes will be greatly limited. Recess will be structured to provide as much distancing as possible.
- In middle school, students will remain in classes and teachers will rotate, in order to limit the number of cohorts students are a part of, and to limit the number of passing times in the halls. More information on scheduling will be forthcoming.

Live-streaming Virtual In-Person Learning (K-8)

Knowing that some families will not be comfortable sending students to school in person, and knowing that many students are likely to miss more school this year with common colds or other illnesses that previously would not have prevented them from attending, we offer the next best thing! We will be setting up a live-streaming option at each grade level/across the middle school classes to allow students at home to be able to participate real-time, virtually, with their classmates and teachers, asking questions or participating in class discussions. Because teachers will be teaching a full class, parents will be expected to help support students access the online aspects of the program. Students may need to attend virtual training to help them best access the class virtually.

- Families who choose this as their full-time option would become virtual students in each of their classes, following the same classwork and homework cycle as their peers.
- Students who are out sick for any reason can utilize the remote option for the duration of their illness or absence, presuming they have parents able to help support them.
- Please note, since teachers will be live teaching while broadcasting, virtual students who run into technical issues, etc. that parents cannot resolve may need to set up a separate time with the teacher to problem-solve issues, or may be directed to work with a different staff member for support.
- In addition, if technical issues arise on the part of the teacher or the platform, there may be gaps in broadcasting beyond our control for periods of time. Staff will work diligently to resolve inevitable issues as quickly as possible, but families should be aware that there may be lapses in broadcasting or other technical issues that may need separate attention at other times to be corrected.