



WHAT WE KNOW RE: GUSD's REOPENING PLANS FOR TK-6*

TIMELINE

- GUSD has said it would like to return TK-6 students “as quickly as possible.” The superintendent shared that she would like to phase in a return of TK-6, beginning with TK-K, then Grades 1-2, then Grades 3-4, and then Grades 5-6. GUSD’s goal is to have all TK-6 students who are returning back in classrooms just after spring break.
- GUSD has said it is giving TK-6 parents until Feb. 21 to decide if they wish to return their child to in-person instruction on school campuses.
- GUSD also shared that as soon as LA County was in the Red Tier (case rate below 7/100,000), they would expedite the return of 7-12th grade students.

SCHEDULES / INSTRUCTION

- GUSD shared that parents, community partners, and educators prefer the Mon/Tues Thurs/Fri hybrid schedule where Group A attends in-person on Mondays and Tuesdays, Group B attends on Thursdays and Fridays, and neither group is on campus on Wednesday. When not on campus, Groups A and B will be engaged in distance learning during the other three days of the week. Principals at some school sites have also shared “proposed” schedules with more detailed schedules. GTA and GUSD have a “Return to School” committee which met in the summer and began meeting again in early January (and continues to meet).
- Students who continue with distance learning “will continue to receive instruction from their teacher on the same schedule as they did in the fall. Students who are distance learning will participate in a live stream with their teacher in the classroom.”
- Each school site is determining a plan for orientations and welcome events for parents and guardians, interventions and enrichment during the school day, after school and Saturday school enrichment, and summer school enrichment.
- Every teacher will be equipped with two web cameras and an omni-directional microphone in order to provide simultaneous instruction to students learning from the classroom and students learning from home. Teachers will have the flexibility to organize their classroom schedule and configuration to best meet the needs of

their students as long as they ensure all students receive equitable access to synchronous and asynchronous instruction and follow all classroom health and safety protocols.

HEALTH / SAFETY

- GUSD said at the Feb. 16th Board meeting that all classrooms opening for instruction have portable Hepa air filter systems; all classrooms have HVAC units that have been upgraded to MERV-13 filters. The report to the board did not indicate if the district had repaired all inoperable windows in elementary school classrooms. However, the report to the Board of Education stated that school staff would be “instructed to keep windows and doors open and use outdoor space when possible.”
- GUSD has said that all students and staff are required to wear “face coverings,” though at other times the district has used the term “masks.” Signs on fences of some schools indicate that neck gaiters, scarves, and bandanas are permissible “face coverings,” even though the [Los Angeles County Department of Public Health](#) and the [CDC](#) do not recommend such items be used in lieu of masks.
- GUSD’s report to the Board of Education indicated that “Intermittent (between classes) cleaning of desks will be done by students, if age appropriate.”
- Regarding social distancing guidelines while on campus, six feet of physical distance between all students and staff remains “the strong recommendation.” Appropriate physical barriers should be used where six feet of distancing is not possible. Distance between student seating should always be more than four feet.
- There will be optional testing of staff for the purpose of “increasing the comfort level” but not to “mitigate a case of COVID.” The tests are “self-administered”, but observed.
- The district offering vaccines to TK-2 teachers is not an effort to bring them back; “it’s just the right thing to do.”

**All information comes from the [Board of Education presentation on Return-to-School plans](#) (Feb. 16, 2021), comments from the superintendent at this meeting, or subsequent emails from the GUSD.*