



# Galena Park Elementary School

Home of the Yellow Jackets

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Dear parents and guardians,

On Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, students whose parents chose the face to face option for their instructional setting will transition to receiving daily instruction on campus. Students whose parents chose the virtual option will continue to receive daily instruction online.

**Our goal is to create as close to a regular in school environment as possible for both groups of students, however, there are some necessary changes. Here are some things to keep in mind for those returning face to face:**

- Students in 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades are required to wear a face mask during the school day (except while eating breakfast/lunch).
- Students will receive a district issued face mask on the first day of school, but must arrive to school wearing a mask from home.
- While face masks are not required for PK & Kinder, they are recommended.
- Students may wear a face shield from home, but it must be worn with a mask.
- For safety reasons, parents will not be able to walk students to class on the first day.
- Gloves should not be worn by students as they will wash hands frequently.
- Students must maintain social distancing during the school day.
- Students do not need to wear school uniforms at this time, but clothes must be school appropriate. Hats are not allowed unless permitted for announced special dress days.
- Students may bring clear or mesh backpacks only.
- Students should bring their own water bottle with the student's name as water fountains will be closed.
- Students in 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade should bring their Chromebook or personal device to school fully charged each day (PK-1<sup>st</sup> grade teachers will communicate with parents regarding bringing devices to school). Parents may want to send devices in a plastic bag each day to protect the device from getting wet.
- Students may bring minimal supplies on the first day (pencils, paper, notebook), any other needs will be communicated by the teacher.
- Students will be with their regular teacher's classroom during the school day.
- There will be no paper and supply exchange between the student and teacher or sharing with other students.
- Hand sanitizer will be available for students and students will wash hands frequently.
- Students will continue to submit work digitally through the teacher's Google Classroom or Seesaw account as much as possible.
- Students will attend enrichment with the enrichment teachers.

- Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria, socially distanced from other students (PK will eat in the classroom).
- Students may bring lunch or eat free lunch provided by the cafeteria. Deliveries for students are not allowed during the school day.
- Visitors will not be allowed to eat lunch with students.
- All students will enter through the cafeteria entrance upon arrival and report to their designated areas as they have in the past.
- Car rider and bus rider dismissal will work the same as it has in the past (car rider lane-enter through 3<sup>rd</sup> Street).
- Students who are walkers will exit from the playground this year. We ask that parents wait along the edge of the middle school football field to provide room for students to exit the playground gates.

**Here are some things to keep in mind for those students remaining virtual:**

- Virtual student schedules will be adjusted and posted on teachers' websites, and/or Google Classroom or Seesaw accounts.
- Each teacher will provide some time during the day for virtual students to attend live during whole group lessons with the teacher, however, students may be working independently for the majority of the time.
- Each teacher will have a time slot to work exclusively with virtual student small groups.
- Each teacher will have an Office Hours period to answer student questions and work with students live.
- Students will need to continue to complete assignments and submit them to their teacher electronically.

Some details from above for both virtual and face to face learners are subject to change, if needed, in order to maintain student/staff safety.

**The district will send information in the next few weeks for parents who wish to change their child's instructional arrangement from virtual to face to face.** Those changes would not take effect until October 26<sup>th</sup>. The next opportunity to change to face to face instruction after October will be at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> nine weeks in December.

GPE has an updated visitor policy which is attached. Please review this document to become aware of policy changes.

Our goal is to continue to provide high quality instruction while maintaining the safety and security of our students and staff. Please feel free to call the school should you have any questions. Thank you for your patience and continued cooperation as we work together in the effort to educate our students.

Warm regards,

Jaime Rocha  
Principal  
Galena Park Elementary