The Greenspire School Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan

Address of School District: 1026 Red Drive, Traverse City, Michigan 49684

District Code Number: 28904

District Contact Person: Robert Walker

District Contact Person Email Address: robert.walker@greenspireschool.org

Local Public Health Department: Wendy Hirschenberger

Local Public Health Department Contact Person Email Address: whirsch@gtchd.org

Name of Intermediate School District: Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District

Name of Authorizing Body: Grand Valley State University

Date of Adoption by Board of Directors: September 21, 2020

Amended Plan Adopted by Board of Directors: *March 22, 2021*

Assurances

- The Academy will administer an approved benchmark assessment, or local benchmark assessment, or any combination thereof, to all pupils in grades K to 8 to measure proficiency in reading and mathematics within the first nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year.

- Within thirty days after the approval of its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, and every 30 days thereafter, the Academy, at a meeting of its board of directors, will re-confirm how instruction is delivered during the 2020-2021 school year and will solicit public comment, at a public meeting, from the parents or legal guardians enrolled in the Academy.

- If delivering pupil instruction virtually, the Academy will expose each pupil to the academic standards that apply for each pupil's grade level or courses in the same scope and sequence as the Academy had planned for that exposure to occur for in-person instruction.

- If delivering pupil instruction virtually, the Academy will provide pupils with equitable access to technology and the internet necessary to participate in instruction.

- The Academy will ensure that students with disabilities will be provided with equitable access to instruction and accommodation in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations.

- The Academy, in consultation with a local health department, and district employees, will develop guidelines concerning appropriate methods for delivering pupil instruction for the 2020-2021 school year that are based on local data that are based on key metrics. A determination concerning the method for delivering pupil instruction shall remain at the Academy Board's discretion. Key metrics that the Academy will consider shall include at least all of the following:

    - COVID-19 Cases or Positive COVID-19 tests
    - Hospitalizations due to COVID-19
    - Number of deaths resulting from COVID-19 over a 14-day period
    - COVID-19 cases for each day for each 1 million individuals
    - The percentage of positive COVID-19 tests over a 4-week period
    - Health capacity strength
    - Testing, tracing, and containment infrastructure with regard to COVID-19

- If the Academy determines that it is safe to provide in-person pupil instruction to pupils, the Academy will prioritize providing in-person pupil instruction to pupils in grades K to 5 who are enrolled in the Academy.

- The Academy will ensure that two (2), 2-way interactions occur between a pupil enrolled in the Academy and the pupil's teacher or at least one (1) of the pupil's teachers during each week of the school year for at least 75% of the pupils enrolled in the Academy. The Academy will publicly announce its weekly interaction rates at each Academy Board meeting where it re-confirms how instruction is being delivered, beginning 30 days after approval of its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, and every 30 days thereafter. The Academy will make those rates available through the transparency reporting link located on the Academy website each month for the 2020-2021 school year.

- The Academy will create and make available on its transparency reporting link located on the Academy's website, a report concerning the progress made in meeting the educational goals contained in its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan not later than February 1, 2021, for goals its expected would be achieved by the middle of the school year and not later than the last day of school of the 2020-2021 school year for goals the Academy expected would be achieved by the end of the school year.

President of the Board of Directors

3-22-2021

Date

Introduction and Overview

An Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan is necessary for The Greenspire School to increase pupil engagement and achievement for the 2020-2021 school year.

Justifications for the necessity of an Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan include…

- The continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on normal school operations
- The general health and safety of faculty/staff and students during a pandemic
- The increase in K-12 COVID-19 cases across the region, state, and country
- The necessity of some high-risk faculty/staff members and students to have an alternative to in-person learning for their own health and safety
- The necessity of some students to have an alternative to in-person learning due to other high-risk members in their home to protect their health and safety
- Physical space limitations of the school as a result of the state mandated protocols in Phase 4 and Phase 5 of the MI Safe Schools Roadmap

Educational Goals

Mid-Year Goals

- Using NWEA as the district/school selected benchmark for grades 6-8 in math (fall), the percent of students scoring average or above will increase from fall to mid-year. Progress will be measured using a benchmark assessment at mid-year.
- Using NWEA as the district/school selected benchmark for grades 6-8 in reading (fall), the percent of students scoring average or above will increase from fall to mid-year. Progress will be measured using a benchmark assessment at mid-year.
- Using NWEA as the district/school selected benchmark for grades 6-8 in language usage (fall), the percent of students scoring average or above will increase from fall to mid-year. Progress will be measured using a benchmark assessment at mid-year.

End of Year Goals

- Using NWEA as the district/school selected benchmark for grades 6-8 in math (fall and spring), the percent of students scoring average or above will increase from fall to spring.
- Using NWEA as the district/school selected benchmark for grades 6-8 in reading (fall and spring), the percent of students scoring average or above will increase from fall to spring.
- Using NWEA as the district/school selected benchmark for grades 6-8 in language usage (fall and spring), the percent of students scoring average or above will increase from fall to spring.

Instructional Delivery & Exposure to Core Content

Introduction

Instruction for the 2020-2021 school year will be delivered in-person and in a remote learning environment. Students and families will elect their choice of learning environment periodically throughout the school year.

The Greenspire School will continue with Phase 3 of the Return to In-Person Learning Plan when the students return from Spring Break on Tuesday, April 6th.

Phase 3: 5-Day Per Week Schedule

Indoor class sizes will continue to be no more than 18 students, unless all students return from remote learning in which case, two of six pods will have 19 students.

Teachers will continue to keep seating charts in classrooms to assist with any possible contact tracing efforts by the health department.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to conduct daily self-checks at home with their child(ren) to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the school building.

Additional Items:

A remote learning schedule was developed for Phase 3 in case of a school closure due to COVID-19 related issues such as a positive case, contact tracing, or staffing issues. The Emergency Remote Schedule has been distributed to students, parents/guardians, and posted in the Toolbox section of our website, under Middle School Resources.

If a transition to remote learning is required, an email will be sent to the school community and the banner changed on the website to provide additional instructions.

There will be no in-person or remote learning due to a school closure for weather (snow), however an extended closure due to weather may necessitate a temporary transition to remote learning as determined by the Head of School & Superintendent.

Masks are still required of all individuals as per dress code and COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan; any changes to that policy will be made by the Head of School & Superintendent based on guidance from health officials.

All other policies remain in place as outlined in the COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan and in accordance with state regulations and orders.

Standards, Scheduling and Grading

Students and families choose per quarter whether to elect in-person or remote learning. It is possible for students and families to choose a different option for subsequent quarters, so we must make sure that our two environments are running parallel to each other and covering the same standards, just in a different delivery system.

The Greenspire School will continue to utilize the pod system for its master scheduling. One pod is composed of remote students and receives a weekly council conducted primarily by the Head of School/Superintendent and Assistant Head of School. Activities include instruction regarding the chosen remote learning platform of Google Classrooms, community building activities, and wellness check-ins. All attempts are made to integrate in-person pods and remote learning pods as much when possible to make sure a transition back to full in-person learning can take place in the future.

Students in both learning environments are assessed the same way. Just as activities and assignments are required during in-person learning, the same is required of remote learning students. Their activities, assignments, and assessments are assessed using the same system to ensure that if there is any transition by a student from one platform to another, they have had the same/similar feedback for growth. Parents and students can access both Google Classroom for more information regarding student progress.

Equitable Access

Special Education Services

- Special education services can be provided remotely to any student requiring services as noted in the student's contingency learning plan.
- For students that need specific services provided by the ISD, remote learning students will be offered the opportunity to attend in-person or remotely to receive those services
- Student learning plans (IEPs, 504s and contingency learning plans) are aligned to the student's chosen learning platform for the quarter and will provide the student with free appropriate public education (FAPE) consistent with federal and state law.

Technology

- Students have 1:1 Chromebooks for the 2020-2021 school year, allowing any student who needs a device at home to have one
- The school has several hotspots for students to utilize during any remote learning period or hybrid learning environment
- In-person students will have Google Classroom integrated into their classes so that they are familiar with that platform if we/they transition to remote learning
- Remote learning students will continue to be provided with training and resources regarding our chosen remote learning platforms (Google Classroom and Zoom) during weekly remote council meetings
- The Head of School/Superintendent is responsible for providing resources to families on our chosen remote learning platforms (Google Classroom and Zoom)