



Grass Valley School District

2020-2021 School Reopening

Superintendent - Andrew Withers

July 21, 2020

Purpose

The purpose of this presentation is to share details regarding the development of the Grass Valley 2020-2021 School Reopening Plan.

This presentation includes specific input and guidance we have received from our Parents, Staff, the Nevada County Public Health Office and our State Government and Educational Leaders.

At the conclusion of this presentation, we request approval of our 2020-2021 School Reopening Plan.

Background

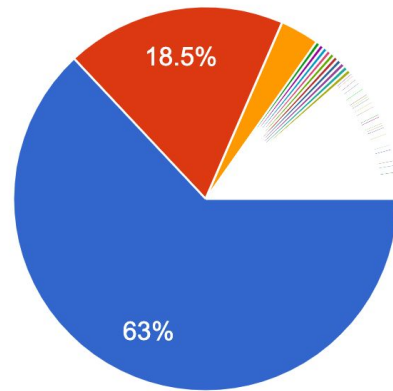
- We are working in coordination with the Nevada County Public Health Office and Superintendent of Schools Office as we review and respond to the updated data, information and guidelines regarding COVID-19
- We have distributed several parent and staff communications between March and July 2020 to inform parents and staff
- Input from parents was collected via survey in late May
- Input from staff was collected via staff meetings in May and June
- School Reopening MOU Negotiations with GVTA began on July 16
- Updated State Guidance received on July 17
- Updated Parent Survey Input received on July 18
- Updated Staff Survey Input received on July 18

Parent Input and Trends

Parents across all school sites responded to a Survey between July 14th and July 18th

If faced with choosing between a Hybrid Learning Program or an Online only Learning Program (Grass Valley Virtual Program) please select which option you would choose

519 responses

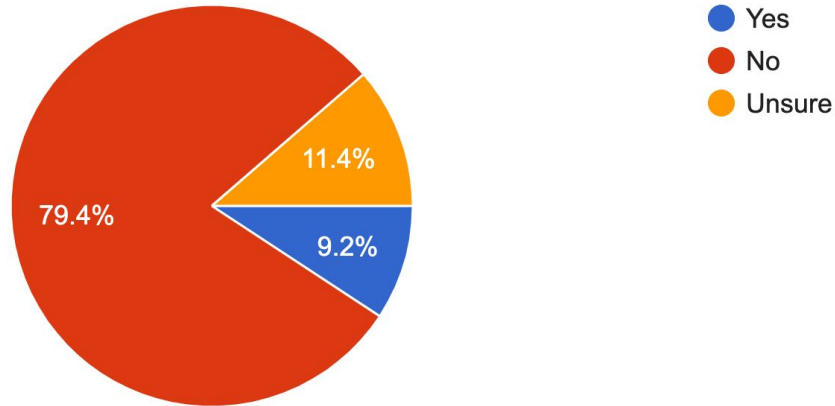


- Hybrid Program - 2 days a week of in-person instruction
- Grass Valley Virtual Program - fully online
- I will be exploring options outside of the district
- We want full time. Why is this no longer an option?
- Homeschooling until traditional school resumes
- Full time school
- 5 days a week in-person instruction
- Hybrid program if all students and teachers are vaccinated

Parent Input and Trends

Will your family need transportation services this school year? Please Note: Current guidelines will require students to wear a mask to ride the bus.

519 responses



Parent Input - Summary of Responses

- Over 500 parents completed the July survey
- 108 - parents told us they would like to participate in an Online Only (Grass Valley Virtual Program) for this school year
- 48 - stated they definitely needed transportation
- 30 - reported they wanted 5 days of in-person learning
- 17 - stated they will be exploring options outside of our district

Parent Input - Summary of Responses

Parents want:

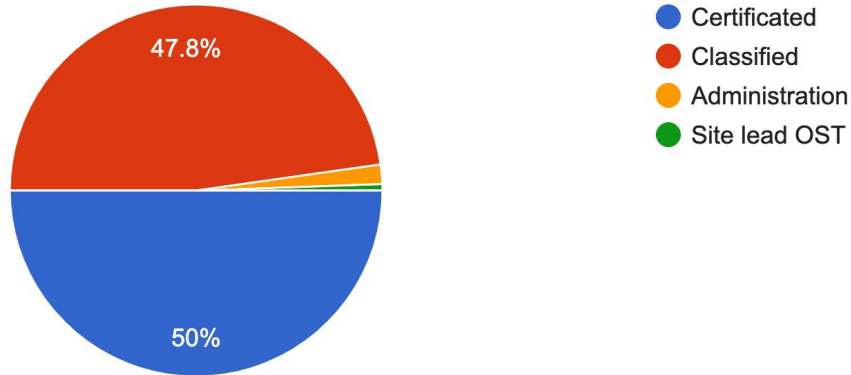
- Clarity on masks and safety protocols
- To ensure their children are safe and they receive a high quality education
- Families to have the same in-person learning schedules
- Us to consider alignment with the High School District
- A Hybrid program much more than an Online Only program
- Us to explore safe childcare options
- Us to get back to “normal” as soon as we can

Staff Input and Trends

- Staff from across our district including certificated, classified and administration responded to a Survey between July 14th and July 18th

What type of district position do you hold?

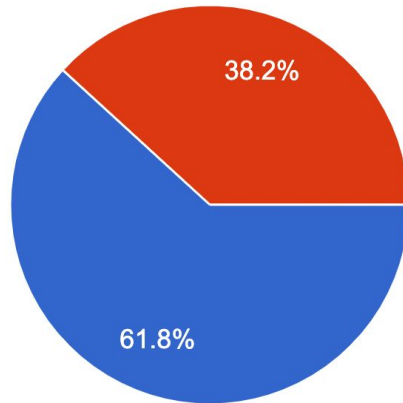
178 responses



Staff Input and Trends

At this time we are planning to offer a Hybrid Learning Program or an Online only Learning Program (Grass Valley Virtual Program) please select which option you would prefer.

178 responses



- Hybrid Program - 2 days a week of in-person + 3 days a week online instruction
- Grass Valley Virtual Program - fully online program 5 days per week

Staff Input - Summary of Responses

- Over 175 staff completed the July survey
- 144 - reported they were ready to return to work as long as health guidelines and safety practices are in place
- 34 - reported concerns about returning to work depending on working conditions
- 5 - staff reported they wanted us to return to 5 day instruction

Staff Input - Summary of Responses

Staff want:

- To provide students high quality learning
- A Hybrid program much more than they want an Online Only program
- To ensure safety guidelines and sanitation practices are followed so they can teach students in person as much as it is safe
- The district to develop childcare options so they can teach in-person when it is safe
- Time to prepare for whichever model we select
- Clear policies on masks , social distancing and cleaning

Nevada County Task Force

Our District Leadership participates in weekly Task Force meetings led by the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools with direct updates guidance from our Nevada County Public Health Department

We received guidelines and communication protocols on July 14th and 15th and are implementing these in our summer program offerings

[A Public Health Guided Return to Site-Based Classroom Instruction - July 14](#)

[COVID Exposure Guide for Schools - July 15](#)

State Guidance and Updates

[Governor Newsom](#) and the [California Department of Public Health](#) released updated guidance on July 17th. When/If Nevada County is on the State Watch List and for 14 days after being removed, schools are required to provide learning at home. The guidance is interim and remains subject to change.



Summary of State Guidance

1. **General Measures** - Prevention plans, trainings, and collaboration required
2. **Promote Healthy Hygiene Practices** - including hand washing, and use of hand sanitizers, face coverings are outlined
3. **Face Coverings** - Children ages 2 to 2nd grade are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings. Staff and students 3rd grade and above must wear face coverings. Schools must exclude students if they are not compliant unless they are exempt from wearing face coverings. Staff may wear face shields in limited situations
4. **Ensure Teacher and Staff Safety** - Physical distancing and face coverings outlined
5. **Intensify Cleaning, Disinfection, and Ventilation** - Details outlined

Summary of State Guidance

6. **Implementing Distancing Inside and Outside the Classrooms** - Arrival and departure planning, classroom space, and non-classroom space guidelines
7. **Limit Sharing** - Guidelines regarding storage containers, supplies and equipment are outlined
8. **Train all Staff and Educate Families** - Trainings will be provided
9. **Check for Signs and Symptoms** - Daily screening, monitoring and documentation to support contact tracing

Summary of State Guidance

10. Plan for When a Staff Member, Child or Visitor Becomes Sick - Symptoms checklist including clear communication guidelines

11. Maintain Health Operations - Designated site liaisons responsible for COVID-19 concerns

12. Considerations for Reopening and Partial or Total School Closures - Developing a clear plan for the continuity of education are required

GVSD 3-Phase Approach to Reopening

- Dynamic data and policy shifts during COVID-19 have shown us that we need to be prepared to provide teaching and learning in multiple formats.
- Our 2020-2021 School Reopening Plans will follow the guidelines from our State, Nevada County Public Health Department and the CDC and it will be developed in collaboration with our district bargaining units
- Health Guidelines and data will be used to develop clear triggers to dictate which phase of learning we are providing.
- Full, 100% online learning will be offered in addition to the three phases based on family preference and medical needs.

Grass Valley 3-Phase Instructional Program

Phase 1--Learning at Home (When/If Nevada County is on the State Watch List, and during the 14 days after being removed)

- Students learn at home, 5 days a week, with daily instruction
- Teachers and service providers will connect with students remotely
- Instruction includes a combination of live instruction, digital or hard copy assignments and/or pre-recorded lessons

Phase 2--Hybrid Model

- Reduced student numbers for part day on-site classes with students in cohorts
- Two days of in person instruction and three days of learning at home
- Alternating days of student at school learning (e.g. Cohort A=Monday/Tuesday and Cohort B=Thursday/Friday)

Phase 3--Traditional School with Safety Precautions in place

- All safety practices and guidelines as outlined by the Nevada County Public Health Department and CDC will be followed
- Full school day of instruction, on campus 5 days a week

***We will move between these phases based on State and County Public Health Guidelines**

Additional Details

- All student services, including but not limited to Special Education services, support for English Learners, Foster Youth, Homeless Students and 504 accommodations, will be provided.
- We will move between the 3-phases based on State and County Public Health Guidelines.
- A full, 100% online learning (Grass Valley Virtual Program) will be offered in addition to the three phases based on family preference and medical needs.

Crisis Support vs. Online Learning

Crisis Support (March-May 2020)

- Teacher Check-ins
- Unplanned/Reactive
- Materials Used: Worksheets, Computers and/or emailed lesson plans
- Focused on review, restricted ability to teach new concepts
- Flexible without daily requirements
- Credit/No Credit
- No Attendance
- No Assessments

Online Learning (August-TBD 2020)

- Teacher Led Instruction
- Purposeful and Standards Driven
- Technology Integration
- Materials Used: Board Adopted Curriculum via Computers or Hard Copy Documents
- Focused on Grade Level Standards utilizing Essential Standards
- Scheduled/Planned School Day
- Graded Assignments and Report Cards
- Daily Attendance
- Assessments scheduled regularly

Summary

- We request your approval of our 3-Phase School Reopening Plan that follows the guidelines from the State of California, Nevada County Public Health Department and the CDC.
- We will offer a fully online instructional program (Grass Valley Virtual Program) for families that request this for personal or medical reasons.
- We request your approval of Resolution 20-01 which will allow the Superintendent to act and respond on behalf of the Board throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic. Continued direct communication and consultation between the Superintendent and the Board will take place.

Next Steps

- Receive Board Approval for our 3-Phase Reopening Plan
- Receive Board Approval of Resolution 20-01
- Continue and Complete Negotiations with our Bargaining Units
- Host a Virtual Parent/Community Forum to review our School Reopening Plan on July 29th at 6pm.
- Continue to ensure all necessary protocols including materials, supplies, trainings, and preparations are completed to support a safe learning environment when returning to in-person learning at school sites
- Daily monitoring of the Nevada County COVID-19 Dashboard