

July 23, 2020 - Gateway High School Town Hall Complete Q&A

Primary	Category	Question	Answer(s)
Distance Learning	Technology/Laptops	<p>For the laptops, do you have to use the laptop that Gateway HS? Can you use your own laptop? Thanks!</p> <p>Can we use our own laptop ?</p> <p>will students have to use the issued laptop or can they use their own</p> <p>Can student use their own Chromebook laptop if they have one or is it mandatory to use a Gateway issue laptop?</p> <p>are the laptops new?</p> <p>My student received a laptop at in the spring should we return that 1 4 a new 1 since there seems 2 be updated technology</p> <p>I love this news that all student get laptops! Will these laptops have is set up to block the students from social media? hoping so!</p> <p>My student had difficulty seeing the screen on the chromebooks that were used in previous years. Can the new chromebooks be adjusted for visual needs?</p> <p>Will we get emails for the schedule for the computer pick-ups? Or do we call and make an appointment?</p>	<p>We're moving towards being a 1:1 device school. So we are requiring every student to have a Gateway device.</p> <p>For the sake of consistency, all Gateway students will use school-provided, brand new laptops for distance learning. Students who still have older models from Spring 2020 will have the opportunity to swap for a new laptop.</p> <p>Yes! A perk of having Gateway-issued laptops will be that we can monitor what websites students have access to. The Chromebooks primary purpose is to support education, so social media will not be accessible.</p> <p>This is an important issue to flag in your parent survey and to submit to the GPS Tech support line so we can make sure the device is working for your child's needs. TEXT: 415-656-8747 EMAIL: family tech support@gatewayps.org</p> <p>Information about pick-up times will be available in the coming weeks.</p>
	Orientation	<p>I thought orientation for new students will be in person?</p> <p>Can you provide a bit more insight into what the new student orientation will entail? Specifically if there's any preparation necessary?</p> <p>My student is feeling a worried about being a new student and not knowing anyone--I understand orientation won't be in person but will there be other ways to connect new kids to the community?</p>	<p>Both schools had to pivot their plans for orientation now that it has to be virtual. Staff will send more information to new families as soon as it's available.</p> <p>Absolutely! Our new students will have a chance to meet with other new 9th graders in their advisory (which is usually a group of 4-6 students) on the first day. With the facilitation of their advisor, they will have a chance to begin connecting with other students and an adult before classes even begin.</p>
	Mental Health	<p>Will there be mental health / wellness support for the students?</p>	<p>Our counselors are planning a webinar on how to best support your teen once school starts. We recognize how challenging this time is for so many and want to support parents and guardians on best ways of navigating parenthood during these times.</p>
	GMS Distance Learning	<p>will the distance learning for Gateway High look a lot like Gateway Middle? For example, Google Classroom and finding the teachers according to subject?</p>	<p>The schedules will look different for middle and high school students. Each school will send the details of schedules in the coming weeks.</p>
	Zoom	<p>How long will the live classes be?</p> <p>will there be zoom tutoring help for students that need it?</p> <p>Will distance learning look like it did last year or will it be Zoom classes? Meaning at this time is this subject taught on Zoom?</p> <p>During Distance Learning will the live learning sessions be via Zoom or through another service? We are constantly encountering unstable internet connection with Zoom.</p>	<p>We will be sharing a schedule the week before school begins-- likely timing will be in the 45-70 minute range.</p> <p>We will have Office Hours for each class, which is a great opportunity to get support from the teacher. Our Boys & Girls Club team will also be working on developing an online tutoring program-- more to come on this.</p> <p>This year's Distance Learning will include a regular schedule of live learning blocks, more similar to our regular school schedule. We will share the schedule the week before school begins.</p> <p>Distance Learning will take place using Zoom and Google Classroom.</p>

		<p>With classes being split, are the lectures going to be live via Zoom for the kids at home or are the teachers teaching the same thing twice?</p> <p>My kid, in 8th grade, flat out refused to participate in anything live. Will the teachers also be willing to let him participate, especially if there is attendance, off camera and no sound.?</p> <p>Do the cameras have to be on when doing PE or any other zoom meetings/class?</p> <p>will students be required to zoom with video on? Students could be doing something else if the video is not on?</p>	<p>This is TBD. We hope to learn what works well for students and teachers when we are in a Distance Learning-only phase. When we get closer to returning to campus for a hybrid format, we will share the plan for this model.</p> <p>Since connecting and building relationship are the basis of our learning model, we are asking all students to turn on their camera and to be visible to their teacher and peers. If a student is uncomfortable doing this, we would work with the student and family to come up with a plan.</p> <p>We are not planning to offer live online PE class. Please see answer above for our approach to camera use.</p>
<p>Hybrid Model</p>	<p>Physical Education</p>	<p>Will there be an opportunity for PE classes online?</p> <p>PE and community service hours, will students still need to make the required hours</p> <p>How do I help my student with meeting the PE requirement?</p> <p>how do students track of the PE hours and Community service?</p> <p>Does someone have to sign off on it? (new 9th grader)</p>	<p>PE continues to be a graduation requirement. Staff will be in touch when the year begins with details about how those requirements can be fulfilled and tracked via distance learning.</p>
	<p>Academics</p>	<p>If distance learning will continue, will we maintain the same structure of exams or will it be more of a project based system?</p> <p>Are the teachers willing to help parents and kids with subjects that are more challenging than others such as for me math and science? For example, special tutorials to get us through the rough patches?</p>	<p>Our teaching faculty believe deeply in the effectiveness of inquiry and project-based learning, and you will see that reflected in distance learning as well.</p> <p>Teachers will likely hold "office hours" throughout the week for students who need extra help, as they did during the spring. Additional supports will be made available as needed.</p>
	<p>Grading</p>	<p>Will kids be graded with letter grades or pass/fail?</p> <p>How will the work be graded? In letters, numbers, or p (for pass) or I (for incomplete)?</p>	<p>We will send an update about our grading policy with the new distance learning plan. We do plan on continuing with letter grades so that grading is consistent.</p>
	<p>Cohort</p>	<p>Will the pods also entail academic endeavors or more outside that realm? Unfortunately, my son has yet to to his online work independently. I have to push him.</p> <p>How many cohorts will be in each grade?</p> <p>I apologize if I missed this - will my incoming freshman and junior be able to come in on the same days?</p>	<p>The cohort model will be focused on academic and distance learning but will include live interaction with teachers and peers</p> <p>There will be a survey next week that includes questions about scheduling, including capturing sibling information. We are prioritizing siblings on the same days. Be sure to complete that survey!</p>
	<p>Health & Safety</p>	<p>For parents who don't get flu shots, how will you know the difference between the two?</p> <p>What was the teachers' feedback on the options? Do they feel this will be safe for them?</p>	<p>We are not clear on what this question is asking. If you would like this question answered, please contact Stephanie Khaziran (skhaziran@gatewayhigh.org) or Becca Wieder (bwieder@gatewayhigh.org).</p> <p>Teachers are part of the planning process and their safety is important to Gateway! We are focused on distance learning for now, per state guidelines.</p>
	<p>Opting Out of Phase 2</p>	<p>Once we enter into phase 2 do I have a choice to keep my child at home?</p>	<p>We recognize that many students and families are worried about the idea of sending their child to school for lots of reasons, and we plan to have a Learn from Home option that's available.</p>
	<p>On-campus Logistics</p>	<p>I know you often align with SFUSD, but can GHS implement its hybrid model if SFUSD isn't ready (ie: GHS and GMS meet criteria)</p> <p>Is KIPP going to be working with Gateway to make sure there is social distancing between schools?</p> <p>Will there be an opportunity to retrieve locks and locker items sometime near the beginning of school?</p>	<p>Per state guidelines, schools cannot open their campus until its county has been off the COVID watchlist for at least two weeks.</p> <p>Yes, we are in direction communication with KIPP in planning for returning to campus.</p> <p>Staff will be communicating about any such opportunities in the fall.</p>

		<p>Thanks for this information. During hybrid learning what is the plan for lunches? Can there be consideration for lunches outside?</p>	<p>The details of scheduling will be sent to families in the coming weeks. We are following the public health guidelines for lunch time, and those details will be in the scheduling message.</p>
<p>Distance Learning and Hybrid Model</p>	<p>Tech</p>	<p>In Phase 2 - will the students be bringing the Chromebooks back and forth from home to school?</p>	<p>Yes, this will their laptop for learning at home and at school.</p>
<p>Seniors</p>	<p>Scheduling</p>	<p>Can 2 days be alternate days. I remembered when we submit the survey the option was alternate days. Will students attend school in person for 2 consecutive days or alternating? Will gateway still be on a block schedule? When will the class schedules be available? Are you able to coordinate schedules for students with siblings who are in a SFUSD elementary school but not one from Gateway? Any sense of the hours for distance learning, e.g 8-3? What will be the start time for the distance learning classes? will they have a schedule that requires them to get up by a reasonable time every day and add structure to their day (pls say yes!) We are new to Gateway - how will live distance learning look like in the fall? How many hours per day? In distance learning will classes be a normal class duration and not a shortened duration? when you go to phase 2 and there are 50% of classes, does that mean the classes will be split in half or you will have one half of the total classes on campus on a given day? With only 12 students in the classroom, are the rest of the class participating virtually?</p>	<p>Students will be on campus for two days a week (either Tuesday/Thursday or Wednesday/Friday). The staggered schedule is designed to limit the number of students on campus to allow for proper social distancing and maximum student and staff safety. Therefore, unfortunately students cannot spend extra days on campus. Gateway will send out more information about scheduling in the coming weeks. Our staff and teachers are working on these plans now. We are only able to coordinate schedules for Gateway students. Exact start and end times are still to be determined, but we do plan on implementing a consistent schedule for all students. Students will be on campus two days per week and distance learning three days per week. When half of the students are in class, the other half will be on their separate distance learning schedule. The fifth day is to allow for a deep cleaning of all facilities.</p>
<p>Special Education</p>	<p>College Counseling</p>	<p>Can you guys try to prioritize the seniors in the fall? We have college applications and other applications that were relying on and won't be the same if we're not in person. What is going to look like for seniors especially with college applications? second the comment/question about ensuring seniors have the support they need for college applications as well as act/sat and ap tests I echo the question posed by Oscar Hernandez re the fall college application process.</p>	<p>We plan to continue offering College Counseling to all seniors this fall. In addition, we are working with our College Counselors to increase one-on-one support to students and families. We're also lucky to be hosting two college counseling interns this year from USF who will be additional support to seniors.</p>
	<p>IEP</p>	<p>What is the plan for students with IEPs and the testing accommodations?</p>	<p>All of our special education services are provided through SFUSD (our Learning Specialists, paraprofessionals, and related services are all SFUSD special education employees) therefore, we are awaiting guidance from SFUSD regarding the specifics of special education services.</p>
	<p>504 Plan</p>	<p>My child was scheduled for a 504 meeting the week after school was closed and as a result, we were not able to create the formal plan. How can I work with the Gateway team to put a 504 plan in place when school starts? Hopefully very quickly.</p>	<p>That said, we know we will continue to prioritize things like co-planning between general education teachers and learning specialists, collaborating closely with families, and providing direct support to students via Zoom. IEP case managers will reach out to families of students with IEPs once school begins to talk about specific plans for each student. Similarly, our 504 coordinator will reach out to families of students with 504s once the school year begins. If you have general questions prior to the start of school related to 504s and/or IEPs feel free to reach out to Marlies McCallum (mmccallum@gatewayhigh.org)</p>

Other	New Students and Families	<p>Our daughter will be a new student, she didn't get a survey. Is there a way to add her to your email list for students?</p> <p>My brother is an upcoming 6th grader, and we missed his meeting yesterday. Is the information the same for both middle and high school? Do we need to know anything about the middle school?</p> <p>My daughter is an inter-district transfer student. We got a denial letter from SFUSD saying the GHS does not have space. Can someone check and get back to me on the status if GHS will still be accepting my daughter?</p> <p>Hi, we didn't get the email regarding scheduling for GHS. Was it sent to all students including incoming freshmen? Thanks</p>	<p>The survey that went to new families has only gone out to parents and guardians. We'll be sending out an email to new students in the next week.</p> <p>Most of the information is similar. Recordings of our Town Halls will be available on Gateway's website on Friday, July 31.</p> <p>Please contact Andrea Tacdol, our enrollment director at atacdol@gatewaypublicschools.org.</p> <p>They are referring to a survey that will be sent out next week. You haven't missed anything, don't worry!</p>
	Community Service Hours	<p>I am a Boys and Girls Club member and we do a lot of service hours, can I count them for my gateway high hours? Or are those two different things?</p>	<p>Yes, you can absolutely count them! Be sure to enter them through our Google Form on the GHS website.</p>
	Other	<p>What is the status of the Spain Spring break travel for the senior students?</p>	<p>This is something we planned to evaluate once we returned to school and had a better sense of health and safety updates. A decision hasn't been made yet, though we encourage you to continue to check in.</p>