

# Patriot Post Extra!



## A Special Edition update on the happenings at GES February 2021

Dear Patriot Parents:

### It is official!

As you have probably already heard, we are coming back into the building to finish up our school year! We are very excited, and have worked hard to make sure we are keeping our students healthy and safe.

**We will begin our transition back into the building on February 18th with our 1st through 5th Grades.**

We do need to take some time to allow the teachers to prepare for this transition, so we will follow the timeline below:

**Wednesday, February 10th:**

Last day of Remote Learning.

**Thursday and Friday, February 11 and 12:**

Asynchronous Learning for students; faculty and staff working in the building, preparing for our return

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The following week is a short, but important week.

**Monday, February 15th:**

President's Day - No School.

**Tuesday, February 16th:**

Teacher Training - No School for students.

**Wednesday, February 17th:**

No work for students; faculty and staff preparing for our return.

**Thursday, February 18th:**

Welcome our **1st—5th Grade students** back to the school building.

**Friday, February 19th:**

Welcome our **Kindergarten students** back to the building.

**Monday, February 22:**

Welcome our **Pre-Kindergarten students** to our building for the very 1st time!

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The following pages have some very important pieces of information, so please read all pages.

### Contact Us:

#### Gordon Elementary School

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Building 6323  
Cameron, NC

Phone:

910-907-1300

Fax:

910-908-3504

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**Dr. Lisa McGee**  
Principal

**Ms. Gladys Blount**  
Assistant Principal

**Ms. Laura Blood**  
Administrative Officer

**Ms. Tivika Coleman**  
Secretary

**Ms. Erica Saunders**  
Registrar

All Parents **MUST** complete the  
**Department of Defense Education Activity  
Home-based Screening Acknowledgment.**

**This document must be signed and turned in before your child returns to school. You only have to sign this agreement one time. This document is an agreement that you will complete a health screening at home **each morning** before sending your child to school. Furthermore, it states that you agree to keep your child at home if they are experiencing any signs of illness that could be related to COVID –19. The document is attached to the e-mail message and is a Fillable PDF.**

**Please complete and return to school  
**BEFORE** 18 February.**

**It can be e-mailed to  
**Erica.Saunders@dodea.edu** or you can  
deliver it to the Gordon Front Office.**

# **Meet Our Gordon Safe and Healthy Return to School Team**

At Gordon, we have a team that has been working hard to ensure we are prepared for a safe and healthy return to the school building. Our team members are:

Dr. McGee—Principal  
Ms. Blount—Assistant Principal  
Nurse T—School Nurse  
Dr. Tuton—4th Grade Teacher  
Ms. Szymborski—1st Grade Teacher  
Ms. Long—Special Education Teacher  
Ms. Bailey—Information Specialist

As everyone is a little unsure about what to expect when we return to school, Gordon will be hosting several **Parent Forums** in Google Meets! We will be sharing our plan for returning to school—**many things have changed**, so we hope that you will attend!

**Parents of students in Kindergarten and 1st Grade**

Wednesday, February 10th at 9:30 AM

**Parents of students in 2nd Grade and 3rd Grade**

Wednesday, February 10th at 10:30 AM

**Parents of students in 4th Grade and 5th Grade**

Wednesday, February 10th at 11:30 AM

**Parents of students in Pre-Kindergarten**

Wednesday, February 10th at 12:30 PM

**Any parents who could not attend an earlier session**

Wednesday, February 10th at 3:30 PM

**The Google Meet Link to attend will be sent via e-mail first thing on Wednesday morning.**

# Computer Return

As we prepare for school to continue in our building, it is imperative that we receive back all of the computers that were loaned out at the beginning of the school year. We do realize that your children may continue to have work to complete as we make the transition. However, in order to collect the machines, quarantine them as required, and have them ready for the 1st day back in the building, we will need all computers turned in by the end of the day on Friday, February 12. Because we have over 100 computers loaned out, we will need to collect them on Thursday and Friday, February 11 and 12.

In the event that your child is unable to complete all assigned work due to having to turn in the computer, please let the classroom teacher know, so expectations can be adjusted accordingly. We apologize for this inconvenience.

In order to help keep wait time to a minimum, we will use the following schedule for turning in the computers.

## Thursday, February 11

**8:00—11:00**

**Sponsor's Last Name beginning with A—G**

**12:00—3:00**

**Sponsor's Last Name beginning with H—N**

## Friday, February 12

**8:00—11:00**

**Sponsor's Last Name beginning with O—T**

**12:00—3:00**

**Sponsor's Last Name beginning with U—Z**

**Please adhere to social distancing guidelines and wear a mask.**

# General Guidelines

- ◆ **ARRIVAL TIME** has changed. Students eating Breakfast may arrive at 8:00. All other students should arrive at 8:15 AM.
- ◆ ID Cards will be checked
- ◆ Visitors will not be allowed beyond the Front Office
- ◆ Only virtual field trips will be allowed
- ◆ Parent Conferences /Meetings will be virtual
- ◆ School Assemblies will be limited or virtual
- ◆ Signs reminding students and employees to wash hands, socially distance from others, and to wear face coverings are posted throughout the school.
- ◆ Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes are in all classrooms
- ◆ Hand sanitizer stations are located in various places in the hallways
- ◆ Water bottles **MUST** be used, as the water fountains will be closed for the remainder of the school year.

# ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

In following recommendations from the Ft. Bragg Public Health Officials, there are many changes to our Arrival and Dismissal Routines. Please be patient with us as we put these changes in place; we are anticipating that there will be some growing and learning pains that will result in added time to collect our students in the morning and to get our student dismissed in the afternoon.

**Students eating breakfast should arrive at 8:00 AM. All other students should arrive at 8:15 AM.**

Students eating breakfast will enter through the Gym Hall Entrance—these doors are to the right of the Main Entrance. Those students eating breakfast will get their breakfast and continue on to their classroom where they will eat their breakfast.



Those students in Grades Kindergarten—2nd grade, who are not eating breakfast will enter the school through the Main Entrance.

Those students in Grade 3rd—5th Grade, who are not eating breakfast will enter the school through the Yellow Hallway Doors—these doors are to the left of the Main Entrance.



Pre-Kindergarten and PSCD students will use the entrance at the back of the school.

# ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

CONTINUED

**Dismissal will also look very different this year.** We will be dismissing students from the classrooms and will call students by family. **This may impact the time it takes to dismiss all students.**

- ◆ Each family will have a number by which the students will be called. It will still be very important for anyone picking up the children to **have an ID**.
- ◆ Dismissal time will be the same as in previous years—2:50 PM (1:55 PM on Wednesdays). Students will be packed up and ready for dismissal beginning at 2:45 PM (1:45 PM on Wednesdays).
- ◆ Parents will receive a placard to place in your vehicle when your child is a “Car Rider”, as well as a smaller version for those times your student is a “Walker”.
- ◆ Remember, only our 5th grade students are allowed to walk home unescorted by an adult, per installation policy.

# Classroom Environment

- ⇒ Our classrooms look a bit different this school year, and we have included some rules and routines that are new.
- ⇒ We have removed all “soft” materials from the classrooms, such as carpets, rugs, pillows, stuffed toys, dress-up items, etc.
- ⇒ We have removed some furniture in order to move student desks/tables further apart to encourage social distancing.
- ⇒ There will be limited use of cubbies. In the event that cubbies are used, teachers will ensure that there is social distancing when utilizing the cubbies.
- ⇒ There will not be community supplies. All students will have their own individual supplies. When materials and supplies must be shared, there will be disinfectant used between student use.
- ⇒ Because classroom size won't allow for social distancing at all times during the day, students will be required to wear their masks throughout the day.
- ⇒ Mask breaks will be included as often as possible.
- ⇒ **Students MUST have a water bottle**—water fountains will remain closed through the end of the school year.

# Breakfast & Lunch

## BREAKFAST

- ◇ All students eating breakfast at school will eat in their classrooms in order to limit the number of children in one common area.
- ◇ Students will enter the building through the gym hallway door, grab a breakfast as they pass the Patriot Café, and continue on to their classroom.
- ◇ Students will eat at their desk/table. The area will then be disinfected so children will have a clean work area.

## LUNCH

- ◇ K-2 students will eat lunch in the cafeteria
- ◇ Students will travel to the cafeteria with their face coverings in place until they are seated with their lunch at the table. They will then be allowed to remove their face covering to eat.
- ◇ When finished eating, students will put their face coverings back on.
- ◇ Students will sit with only their classmates and will be socially distanced
- ◇ The students in 3rd—5th Grade will eat in their individual classrooms.
- ◇ Lunch will be delivered in order to limit time in a common area or in line.
- ◇ Students will eat at their desk/tables

# Health Room

- \* A separate area has been created to isolate any student or adult who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID.
- \* Everyone entering the Health Room MUST wear a mask.
- \* Teachers will call Nurse T before sending any student to the Health Room.
- \* All safety protocols, first aid, and care plans will be reviewed with teachers before students return to the building.
- \* **Parents need to ensure students who are exhibiting any signs of illness are picked up within one hour of being called by Nurse T.**