

Health and Safety Guidelines and Greene County Career Center Pledge

Dear Families,

The Greene County Career Center cares about the health and safety of our students and staff. Throughout the summer we have been working diligently with administration, staff, and local and state public health officials to remain informed and to review and develop procedures and guidelines related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) for the 2021-2022 school year.

It is, and will always be, our mission and goal to protect our students and staff both inside and outside of school. With this said, please understand that these guidelines are subject to frequent change. We ask that as conditions evolve that you are willing to pivot with us and follow any updated protocols directed by the Greene County Career Center.

We are asking for your help in keeping our buildings "COVID-19 Free" by following our district's guidelines, insisting that your child follow our district's guidelines, pledging to report your child's illness, and keeping students at home when necessary.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") indicates you may have COVID-19 if you have:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Our best defense against viruses is by doing our part to reduce their transmission. By following the recommendations of the CDC and the health department, we can reduce illness in our schools and, as a Career Center, it is imperative that we can remain open for hands on instruction. We are asking for a commitment from our students, along with all parents and staff to:

● **Sick students should remain at home.** If your child has symptoms listed above or a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher, seek appropriate medical attention and keep students home until they are symptom-free and fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication. If your child has tested positive for COVID-19, your child must be kept at home pursuant to any quarantine period and until he/she is symptom free for 3 days (72

hours). We must have your cooperation in order to keep students and staff safe. **By delivering your child to school or placing your child on the school bus, you are assuring the district and other parents that your child is not ill and is fever-free.**

- **Report absences.** Report your child's absence and share possible COVID-19 symptom information with our attendance secretary or school nurse as soon as possible, so we can be sure the health department is involved when appropriate.

- **Remind your child/children of the following important health habits:**

- **Masking.** While wearing a mask at GCCC will be optional as we start the 2021-2022 school year, it is important to note that the CDC is recommending that students wear masks at all times. They have also concluded that masks must be worn on public transportation systems and this includes school buses. While students and staff who wish to do so may wear a mask at any time on GCCC's campus, GCCC's Board does not believe it is appropriate to require this of students absent the absolute need for such if ordered by the state or local health officials. Our Board believes that when given the option by the CDC, this decision should remain with each child's parent/guardian with respect to what is best for their child.
- **Wash hands.** Practice good hand hygiene by washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- **Cover** your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Use an elbow if no tissue is available and do not cough or sneeze without covering up.
- **Do not share** personal items – pens, pencils, cell phones, electronic devices, laptops, water bottles, drinks, food, or unwashed utensils. Be mindful of the ways this can spread viruses at all times.
- **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick. If your child has had close contact with a person with COVID-19, keep your child at home.
- **Avoid touching** your eyes, nose, and mouth whenever possible.
- **Abide** by the district's physical distancing procedures.

Without question, students returning to school buildings includes a possible risk of contracting COVID-19. This type of virus can be very serious, particularly for persons at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. I would point out that GCCC is at a great advantage being in a new facility with the most current air handling systems available allowing outstanding fresh air return systems in our building. Even with everyone following district's guidelines and all cleaning efforts, please understand certain risks remain. We take our responsibilities to students and staff, particularly their safety, very seriously and we know that you do, too. We will continue to monitor COVID-19 with health officials, implement revised safety protocols as needed, and provide updates to our families.

Sincerely,



David Deskins, Superintendent
Greene County Career Center

The GCCC Pledge

Staff/Parent/Students

I have read and understand the importance of following the district's guidelines created in collaboration with our local health department and CDC guidance in reducing the known risks associated with students returning to school buildings.

I pledge to follow the district's guidelines and join other students, parents, staff, and community members in their efforts to keep our schools safe and students and staff healthy.

As a student or staff member, I further pledge to stay home and call in my illness when I have a fever over 100 degrees, have symptoms included in the guidelines, had close contact with a person who has COVID-19, or tested positive for COVID-19.

As a parent/guardian, I further pledge to keep my child or children home if they have: a fever over 100.4 degrees, have symptoms included in the guidelines, had close contact with a person who has COVID-19, or tested positive for COVID-19; and, I will make arrangements in advance to prepare for this possibility.

Parent/Guardian _____
Date

Student _____
Date

Staff Member _____
Date

