

Gibbs High School Re-Opening Q&A

How is the social distancing going to happen in the classrooms? I would think with larger group of students there would not be enough room to have 6 feet apart.

While we are asking teachers to rearrange their classrooms to allow for the greatest distance possible between students, we will not be able to accommodate 6 feet of distance. Therefore, we will require masks to be worn by students and the teacher if social distancing is not possible. When possible we will move classes to larger rooms to allow for greater distance.

Will there still be a half-day of freshman orientation that was scheduled the Thursday before school starts based on the original school schedule or will they wait and start on the 17th with all other students?

Yes, we will be hosting Freshmen Orientation on Day will on Thursday, August 13 from 8:30-12:00. Transportation will be provided. More information will be shared, as we get closer to the date.

Will there be CTE classes like auto mechanics and architecture class?

Students who select the in-person version will be able to continue to take hands-on and performance-based courses, like CTE courses.

The virtual program will not be able to offer all course options available at Gibbs High School, but all students will remain on track for progress to the next grade and for graduation. Certain class activities are not feasible in the virtual option for hands-on and performance-based courses like Auto Mechanics, Art, ect.

The letter states that "student schedules will be focused on core (Math, English, Science, and Social Studies). These classes will be taught at a CP (college prep) level." My student is signed up for DE Statistics and DE English. Will DE classes be offered virtually?"

At this time, it will be determined by each University/College offering the course. The majority of our classes are taught by Pellissippi State. According to the Dual Enrollment Coordinator at Pellissippi State their classes will be on-line. We anticipate more information from Pellissippi as we get closer to the start date of school.

My student will be doing Virtual Learning and has a brand new laptop she will be using. Do we have to pick up a Chromebook?

All Virtual Learning students will have a Chromebook available for pick-up. However, you may elect to use your device in place of the school issued Chromebook. In that instance, you would

not be required to pick up the school device. However, each student attending in person will be required to use the school assigned Chromebook at school.

Will AP/Honors classes be available for virtual learning?

At this time, we can only guarantee core classes at the CP level. There are a few AP classes available through Quest, which can be used for Virtual Learning. There is a possibility that more AP/Honors courses could be offered depending on student requests throughout the district. Students who are eligible may also want to consider Dual Enrollment as an option.

Will classes like Drivers Education and Ensemble (I can't see singing in a mask) still be taught for in person students?

Yes, at this time there has been no change to the Master Schedule in regards to these classes. We will implement any guidelines that are shared with us as they relate to classes, like chorus, band, ect.

Will a student who selects remote learning be able to attend CTE classes?

No, students will select either in-person or virtual learning. Students who select virtual will have adjustments made to their schedule.

Can a student select the Virtual Program and In-Person option?

No, there is not a hybrid option available, which would allow for students to attend in-person and virtually.

If students opt for in school instruction, will the students still attend school 5 days a week or stagger to only every other day?

Students will be attending on a normal five day schedule based on the Knox County Schools District Guide for Reopening.

We are unable to access the Aspen portal. Where can we get a paper form to complete for the virtual learning option?

A paper copy can either be emailed, faxed or picked up in the office. Please contact the main office to make arrangements.

I have not heard anything about band camp for my freshman. I was wondering if this is being done?

Due to the current situation Band Camp has been cancelled for Summer 2020.

My student originally signed up for virtual classroom but now he/she wants to actually attend school, how do I change this?

The parent will need to send an email to Dana.Hall@knoxschools.org.

Will students have the opportunity to change their schedules?

Students will have an opportunity to request a schedule change at the beginning of the school year. You may also email your student's School Counselor with any scheduling questions, concerns or schedule change requests.

Schedule Changes are ONLY valid for the following reasons:

An empty block/no class in your schedule.

Scheduled in a class already passed.

Do not have the required prerequisite.

Missing a class required for graduation.

Please do not request a change unless you meet the above criteria.

I am concerned about my student taking upper level course during this time, may I request a schedule change?

You would need to contact your student's School Counselor and ask for a level change request. If the request is approved, the schedule would be changed at that point.

"My student was slated to take a Dual Enrollment class. What happens if they select the Virtual Learning Option?"

Students would still be able to take Dual Enrollment classes.

What are the summer reading assignments for CP English (we only know the ones for AP)? Will they be allowed more time to complete this assignment?

All summer reading assignments and due dates are available on the Gibbs High website.

My student has done the summer reading and assignments for Honors/AP English. If he/she chooses the virtual option for the semester, which is CP level, will he get credit for the work he did? Will he need to read the CP assigned books for class assignments/tests?

The virtual teacher will assign all grades for the class. When your student is placed with a virtual teacher, we suggest you contact them to address this question as it relates to your student.

We are now looking into early graduation. Will the process be the same online as it is for in school?

Seniors who are now considering early graduation need to contact their school counselor to discuss this possibility.

Will choosing online affect TN Promise eligibility?"

Virtual Learning will not affect a student's eligibility for TN Promise.

I've heard about other schools doing senior pictures already. Just wondering when or if we've done ours yet? Or if I need to schedule it.

Lifetouch is scheduled for August 6th and 7th They will contact you to schedule a specific time.

Will my student have to wear a mask all day?

Because physical distancing is not feasible at all locations on the school campus, masks will be required. Examples of areas and times where physical distancing is not feasible includes, but not limited to the following:

- Classrooms where physical distancing is not possible
- Temperature check lines and entry into the school buildings
- Holding areas before school
- Cafeteria serving line
- Hallways and class breaks
- Restrooms
- Face masks will be provided to staff, students, and visitors if needed.
- Teachers have the autonomy to require masks at all times in the classroom.
- School administration reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of a mask.

Can my student come back to an in-person option in the spring if he/she were virtual this fall?

The expectation will be that students who enroll in the Virtual Learning Program at the beginning of the school year will be expected to continue in the program until the semester break in December. There will be an option in December for students to either continue in the Virtual Learning Program or return to their assigned school in January.

How will my lunch look?

In an effort to provide social distancing students will only be allowed in two locations during their designated lunch period. Seating will be arranged in both locations to promote social distancing. Students will not be allowed to congregate in large groups.