

Distance Learning Plan

Fall Term 2020-2021



Frequently Asked Questions

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Grading/Assignment Information

Will students be graded on their work? How will grades be calculated?

- Yes. Students will earn grades from their teachers for off campus learning.
- Students will receive letter grades based on our GPA grading policy.

Will there be quarter finals?

- Yes.

How will students turn in their work?

- Work will be turned in via Google Classroom or email.

Will student grades be inputted into PowerSchool?

- Yes. PowerSchool will continue to be the GPA Student Information System (SIS)

Will my child receive high school credit?

- Yes, as long as they complete the coursework successfully and earn a passing grade.

FAQs Continued:

Grading/Assignment Information

What if my child has an F in a class? How will they be able to fix that?

- If a student is earning an 'F' they should reach out directly to their teacher as soon as possible to find out if they can improve that grade.

How will students be assessed? Pass/Fail or Grades?

- Students will be assessed through a variety of measures; exams, quizzes, assignments, projects, essays, participation, etc. Students will receive a letter grade for work completed to a satisfactory level, based on the GPA Grading Policy.

My child is an 11th grader, but had an F in 10th grade, do they need to make that up?

- Yes. Students who received 'F' marks on their transcripts will need to make up those courses for credit. Please check in with your student's counselor.

Will my child's grades be private from other students seeing them?

- Student grades will be housed in PowerSchool and kept confidential as is our normal protocol.

FAQs Continued:

Grading/Assignment Information

What if my child needs to retake a course they failed in previous years?

- Students needing to retake courses will need to retake that course during the school year. For example, they may need to be enrolled in two English courses in the same year to recover the credit.

Will there be summer school next summer?

- That is undetermined at this time. GPA intends to provide summer school offerings if we are able.

Will students receive Citizenship grades?

- Yes. Students will receive Citizenship grades based on their citizenship in the online courses.

How will I know what my child's assignments are for the day/week?

- Teachers will post the assignments for students in Google Classroom in a timely manner and with instructions. Parents/students are also encouraged to reach out to teachers as often as needed.

FAQs Continued:

Uniform/Dress Code Information

Do I have to wear my uniform for Zoom meetings?

- Yes. Friday attire is acceptable.

What if my child does not have a GPA shirt to wear?

- GPA uniforms can be purchased at Mario's Family Clothing - 28 North Euclid Avenue, National City CA 91950 (619) 264-6081.

Do we have to wear ties or Friday attire?

- You may wear ties or Friday attire all week. It is up to you.

Do students need to wear their ENS uniform for ENS class?

- No. ENS will be completed remotely and students should wear appropriate athletic attire.

FAQs Continued:

Senior Information

Will Seniors be getting a senior tie?

- Yes.

Will there be a senior t-shirt?

- Yes.

Will there be Senior Sunrise?

- Not at this time.

Are we still going to do Senior Talks?

- Maybe, TBD

When will Wingspan be open for seniors?

- Wingspan will have specific virtual office hours. Please email Ms. Rojas at jrojas@gomperscharter.org and Mr. Zhang at rzhang@gomperscharter.org for more information.

FAQs Continued:

Counseling Information

Will I be able to meet with my counselor in person or online?

- You will be able to meet with your counselor via phone or online. Send your counselor an email with the subject line: "Meeting Request" in the body of the email, share the reason for the request and dates and times you are available.

What if I want to change my schedule or teacher?

- Please email your counselor.

What programs/services will be available during distance learning?

- We will offer the same services - just virtually.

Will there be resources available for students and parents?

- Yes. We will keep our website updated with student and parent resources that can be accessed.

FAQs Continued:

Supplies/Resources Information

How will I get my supplies from the school?

- There will be set pickup times by grade level for general supplies, including technology for new 6th and 7th graders.

What if my computer doesn't work? Who do I contact?

- Contact OTI at (619) 263-2171 or email at helpdesk@gomperscharter.org

Will my student need a printer?

- No, although a printer would be an added support for students who work best on paper.

How do I get reading books for independent reading?

- Ask your teacher or email Ms. Furey at lfurey@gomperscharter.org or Mrs. Buono at sbuono@gomperscharter.org

Will students be able to visit the library at GPA?

- No, not during off campus learning.

Will students receive a planner?

- No, planners will not be provided for the 2020-2021 school year.

FAQs Continued:

Parent/Support Information

How do parents contact teachers?

- Teachers will be available by email and phone.

Will parents be allowed into all classes?

- Yes, parents are able to observe all classes.

Will the Director or leadership monitor what is happening in classes?

- Yes.

What type of 504 and special educational services will be provided?

- Services will be provided according to students' IEP and 504 Plans.

Will there be Learning Center this year?

- Yes. Students enrolled in Learning Center will have it on their schedule.

Will parents be notified quickly if students start falling behind in their work?

- Yes. PowerSchool will be updated weekly.

FAQs Continued:

Parent/Support Information

For parents that work all day, will teachers communicate with us weekly on the progress of our children?

- Yes.

Are zoom sessions going to be recorded for parents to see what is happening with our children?

- No. If parents have concerns please reach out to the teacher directly or any member of the leadership team.

The continuity of learning plan was great because of one on one tutoring. Is that still happening?

- No, students will not have a 1:1 tutor assigned to them. If additional support is needed please reach out to your child's teacher, counselor or other staff member.

What type of one on one tutoring will teachers provide my child?

- Teachers will be available for office hours from 7:00am - 9:00am and 2:00pm - 3:30pm and by appointment.

FAQs Continued:

Parent/Support Information

What do parents need to do to be ready for off campus learning?

- Ensure your child knows their schedule and has a place to learn at home, and continually monitor his/her progress.

Will sixth graders be given information about the school culture and REACH values?

- Yes, it will remain part of the curriculum.

Will there be parent teacher conferences?

- Yes. More specific information will be provided. Teacher office hours before and after school may be used for parent conferences.

Can parents give feedback on off campus learning?

- If parents have concerns or feedback, please reach out to a member of the leadership team at info@gomperscharter.org

What are best practices for students in off campus learning?

- In addition to what you would normally do to support your child in school, it is helpful to create a routine for waking up and going to bed, and to find a quiet space for concentration.

FAQs Continued:

Parent/Support Information

Will training be available to parents on Google Classroom, Zoom and other platforms?

- Parents can receive training and support through OTI. More information to come.

If students/parents are having trouble with technology (Chromebook/Wifi) how can they receive support ?

- Students and parents can receive technology support through OTI, via phone, drive thru or in home support.

How can parents access student grades and attendance information?

- Parents can access updated student grade and attendance information through the PowerSchool parent portal.

What should parents and students do to stay informed and up to date on what is happening?

- Establish a routine where students check their GPA email and Google classrooms daily.

What are the official Gompers Preparatory Academy social media accounts?

- Instagram: @gompersprep
- Facebook: Gompers Preparatory Academy
- Twitter: @gompersprep

FAQs Continued:

Classes/Activities Information

How do I ensure my child is only being taught school related topics and state standards?

- If parents have concerns please reach out to the teacher directly or any member of the leadership team.

How many students will be in my class?

- Class sizes will vary.

Will there be auditions for Musical Production?

- Yes, there will be virtual auditions.

Will there still be ballet?

- Not at this time.

How are we going to do ENS?

- ENS will be taught virtually.

FAQs Continued:

Classes/Activities Information

What information can be shared about AP classes? Will they be offered?

- AP classes will be offered. Students received an email in July to select AP courses for the 2020-2021 school year.

How will Art class work?

- Art will be done remotely like all other classes. More specific information will be provided.

Will there be High School Athletics?

- Not at this time.

Will students still make Honor Roll?

- Yes, students can make honor roll.

What kind of fun are teachers planning for my student?

- Teachers will provide fun, educational, and engaging lessons.

Will there be special projects, performances, or activities for students?

- Teachers may have special events planned.

FAQs Continued:

Off-Campus Learning/Video Conferencing Information

Will my child have different styles of learning experiences from teachers for the five hours they are in front of the computer?

- Teachers will engage students appropriately, using a variety of modalities.

Do students have to show their face in Zoom meetings?

- Yes. If you have concerns, please reach out to your teacher privately.

FAQs Continued:

Additional Help Information

What if I need help after office hours?

- Discuss with your teacher and or other staff member.

What if I have to work and can't attend class at the time scheduled?

- Our class schedule is set, please email your counselor if you need accommodations.

What if a teacher is absent. How will parents and students be informed, and what will happen to the students in class that day?

- Students will be notified and given proper instructions based on the circumstances.

FAQs Continued:

Attendance/Classroom Management Information

How will attendance be handled?

- Attendance will be taken by their teacher each period based on students logging in to class.

Do students have to attend all zoom classes to be considered present?

- Yes, attendance will be taken every period at GPA. If a student has a special circumstance and they do not attend a scheduled Zoom class, parents should notify the main office through Virtual Office Hours or email attendance@gomperscharter.org to report the absence.

Can a student be marked present and not attend a scheduled zoom class?

- No. If a student has a special circumstance and they do not attend a scheduled Zoom Class with their teachers, parents should communicate with the main office using Virtual Office Hours or email attendance@gomperscharter.org to communicate the reason for the absence. The counselor, parent and teacher will discuss the individual circumstances.

FAQs Continued:

Attendance/Classroom Management Information

Will attendance be taken each period for students?

- Yes. Powerschool attendance will be taken each period.

Can students be marked present based solely on completion of assignments, emails, or google classroom chats?

- No. Only approved situations between school and parent will be accommodated beyond normal procedures for attendance.

If my child is going to miss a Zoom class with a teacher, what do I do?

- Parents should call Virtual Office Hours on Zoom and report the absence or email attendance@gomperscharter.org

FAQs Continued:

Attendance/Classroom Management Information

What if my child is late to Zoom class?

- Students are expected to report to their Zoom classes on time each day, and to communicate with their teacher(s) if a situation arises that may cause them to be late.

How will student behavior be managed by the teacher?

- Teachers will manage their classes. If parents have concerns please reach out to the teacher directly or any member of the leadership team.

FAQs Continued:

Additional Information

My child only speaks Spanish, who will help them?

- English Language support will be provided by teachers and staff as needed. If you have specific concerns please email our EL Coordinator Ms. Meza at smeza@gomperscharter.org

How long will off campus learning last?

- Based on recommendations from state and local officials.

When do you think we will be able to go to school on campus?

- Based on recommendations from state and local officials.

Will lunch be available for students?

- Students will be able to pick up lunch from 12:00 - 2:00 at the bus turnaround east of the GPA field off of Hilltop Drive. Please bring your student ID or a piece of paper with your name, school, and student ID written on it.

FAQs Continued:

Additional Information Continued

How do I get my schedule?

- Login to your Powerschool student or parent portal and look up your schedule.

How do I create a PowerSchool account?

- On August 26 directions and access codes to create your student and parent PowerSchool accounts were mailed to your home.

What if I need additional support with PowerSchool or getting my schedule?

- Login to virtual office hours for additional support

FAQs Continued:

Who is in charge of each of the academic departments?

- Wingspan and Counseling:
 - Assistant Director Lisa Maples lisamaples@gomperscharter.org
- English and Foreign Language:
 - Assistant Director Anne Robinson arobinson@gomperscharter.org
- History and Electives:
 - Assistant Director Peter Chodzko pchodzko@gomperscharter.org
- Science, ENS and Advanced Placement:
 - Assistant Director Jeremy Hurlbert jhurlbert@gomperscharter.org
- Math:
 - Assistant Director Jane Levenson jleverson@gomperscharter.org
- Special Education:
 - Program Specialist Laura Laird llaird@gomperscharter.org