



Gates Mills Elementary School  
7639 Colvin Road Gates Mills, Ohio 44040

Hello Gates Mills Families,

I hope this second communication finds you well, I know many families have been agonizing over the choice to send their children back to school or to choose online learning. I know what a difficult but important decision that we all face. Please continue to feel free to reach out with questions, I may not have the answers, but even questions that I cannot answer help us to process details that we may not have thought about. For families that do select the online learning option, your children will remain connected to Gates Mills, any school activities or events your children will still be able to participate in, and you will continue to receive communications from Gates Mills. As we move closer to the start of the school year, here are a few logistical details that have been confirmed, continue to look for future communications each week as our plans come together.

### Remote Learning Option - Further Details

*Much was learned in the Spring of the 2019-2020 school year surrounding remote learning and how we can best meet the needs of our students. As we transition from our first model of remote instruction to Remote Learning 2.0 for Mayfield students using a blended instructional model, the following will take place to continue to provide a personalized learning experience for Gates Mills students.*

- A Mayfield Teacher (not necessarily a Gates Mills teacher) will be assigned and work with students daily.
- A schedule for face to face instruction, small group work, individual conferencing, and self-paced learning will be established.
- Mayfield Curriculum will be used.
- Mayfield technology and supporting platforms will be leveraged.
- Keeping the connection to Gates Mills will be important and we will try to do this as much as it is feasible. You will continue to get updates from Gates Mills and will be able to participate in any Gates Mills activities that we have planned. The students will be able to connect with other students that are learning virtually.
- We will remain responsive and flexible knowing this is a difficult decision.
- Daily attendance will be taken and required.
- Grading policies and practices will be the same as the traditional classroom.

### Face Coverings in Mayfield Schools

- All staff members will be wearing face coverings and/or face shields when they are within 6-feet of students and staff or unless there is an exception as noted in the Ohio Department of Education K-12 Safety Guidelines.
- Pre-K – Gr. 12 students will wear a face covering and/ or face shield when they are in small group instruction, less than 6 feet from each other and transitioning in and out of the classroom. Students should have their own personal face covering and /or face shield daily. Face shields must be transparent / clear and cover the nose and mouth area.
- Pre-K – Gr. 12 students and staff will wear a face covering and / or face shield while riding the school bus. Face shields must be transparent / clear and cover the nose and mouth area.
- All approved persons entering our school buildings are required to wear face coverings while visiting any campus in the Mayfield City School District. Signs will be posted by visitor entrances with this requirement.

- A visitor's face covering does not need to be a mask, but can be anything that covers the nose and mouth, such as a bandana, scarf, t-shirt, etc.

### Procedures Regarding School Day Start and End Times

- As a reminder, the new elementary bell times are below that will support our enhanced safety measures involving social distancing, cleaning, and supervision.
  - Student arrival will be from 8:30 - 8:50 a.m. Students will transition into the building through multiple entry points. If you are dropping your child off, we ask that you keep your child in your car until signaled to release them. This will allow us to space students out as they enter the building.
- Students will transition directly to their classrooms upon entry each day.
- The instructional day will begin at 8:50 a.m.
- Students may not be dropped off at school before 8:30 a.m.
- The dismissal process will be staggered between 1:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Procedures are being developed surrounding a safe exit to busses/parent pick-up/aftercare locations and our Champions program.

  - Additional, specific information will follow in the coming weeks.
  - All students must be picked up by 2:00 p.m.
- Champions aftercare will be available. Our Champions provider is working collaboratively with our schools surrounding procedures to safely transition to the after school program. Those details will be shared with families who wish for their child to attend before the school year begins.
- We are also exploring the option of before school care through Champions and will be sharing details shortly regarding this potential opportunity.

## School Supplies

- Mayfield elementary students will have the supplies they need to support their learning in the classroom this year. These supplies will be purchased by the district.

## Visitors and Volunteers

- We recognize and appreciate all that our volunteers and visitors do to help our schools. To protect our students and staff and for the safety of all, we are, at this time, restricting all volunteers and visitors to our buildings. If a meeting is needed, we are asking that those meetings be held remotely online or over the phone. In rare instances, and if necessary, in-person appointments must be scheduled in advance, those visiting must complete a self-health assessment, and wear a face covering to enter the school. Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms or a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher should remain at home.

## Food Service Update - Pre-order through Infinite Campus and Free/Reduced Food Services Information

- Parents/guardians can now purchase lunch for their students online each day! Lunch items will be packaged/covered and a simplified menu will be available that will focus on easy, grab-n-go items.
- We are excited to offer this opportunity through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. You can find screenshots of the new process here:  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\\_hrYxY9nIcOLjWJdlCPBBTOIsUF\\_bZhp/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_hrYxY9nIcOLjWJdlCPBBTOIsUF_bZhp/view?usp=sharing)
- As in the past, information regarding free/reduced services will be available to all families in the coming weeks through an Infinite Campus message from our Food Service Department. Students on free/reduced lunch will need to order online as well to receive meals.
- Please do NOT send cash to school with students.

- Meals will be available for drive-by pick-up if a student is remote.
- Students will eat in their classrooms to assist with distancing.
- All parents should expect some changes to current food policies in order to protect students who have food allergies. For example, no lunch, packed or purchased, can contain anything made with peanuts or other tree nuts. Since students are likely to be eating in their classrooms, no allergens can be present.
- Food service employees will follow all regulations and guidelines mandated by the Centers for Disease Control, Ohio Department of Health, and Cuyahoga County Board of Health.
- All employees will wear gloves, face shields or masks and there will be as minimal food handling as possible.
- Elementary Lunch Price: \$2.85 Reduced Price: \$0.40
- Please Note: A la carte snacks/beverages will not be available to students (this may change as the year progresses)

### Social/emotional Support for Students

- We can fully appreciate that many students will need support during this transition back to school and a new normal. Please know that we will continue to utilize successful past practices that assist with concerns, promote positivity, and truly support individual student needs. This is and will continue to be very important to us as a Gates Mills Team.

### Important Information we need from YOU

- **Transportation Opt-Out:** Please fill out the information below if you wish to opt your student out of district transportation to school and/or from school for the 2020-2021 school year:  
<https://forms.gle/QX1JMCYwo59W8bjq8>

- **Remote Learning Opt-in:** If you plan to have your child/children attend remote classes, please complete a separate application form for each child that you wish to enroll. The deadline for submission is July 24, 2020, at 4 p.m:

<https://forms.gle/f3Fz6supcvHfYFPr8>

- **Champions After Care:** Please complete the application link below to have your student(s) receive after care during the 2020-2021 school year:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/f0acf131a6b1414aa018c098a08a81f6>

In closing, we know that many questions remain. We will continue to work with our families, be responsive to each of your concerns/needs, and best support our students as they return to Gates Mills in-person, or virtually.

Be well, stay healthy, and keep smiling under those face coverings.

**#GatesSmallButMighty**

Laurel Ravida, Principal

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