



District Support, Ready for Learning, and Continuity of Operations Plan

Gentry School District

Updated March 13, 2023 for the third and fourth quarters of the 2022-23 School Year

Ready For Learning/Continuity of Operations Team (Established Summer of 2020)

Terrie DePaola, Superintendent

Christie Toland, Asst. Superintendent

Brae Harper-Federal Programs Coordinator

Justin Blanchard, GHS Principal

Danielle Freeman, GMS Principal

Brent Hester, GMS Assistant Principal/Athletic Director

Kristen Smartt, GIS Principal

Victoria Groomer, GPS Principal

Kari Cantrell, Allison Blanchard-GHS Multi-Classroom Leaders

Jason Barrett, Director of Operations

Craig Millsap, Technology Director

Scott McCollum- District Secondary FACE Coordinator

Melinda Ramsey, GIS Multi-Classroom Leader

Andrea Folger, GPS Multi-Classroom Leader and District Elementary FACE Coordinator

Tahmara Coones-Special Education Administrator

Megan Oaks-ESOL Coordinator

Sandy Duncan-Food Service Director

Brian Little, District Assessment Coordinator, GHS Asst. Principal

Parents

Gentry Board of Education

Continuous Plan Development

As we transition to a post-pandemic era, the district will convene the RFL/Continuity of Operations Team each semester to review the current status of the pandemic and update the plan based on the most current information we have.

The plan will be updated throughout the school year and summer months as new information is provided from the Department of Education and Arkansas Department of Health. As circumstances may change, we will continue to rely on the state requirements to inform our plan and communicate any changes to our students, staff, parents, and community.

PARTNERSHIP



Parent/Community Input

Comments submitted for this update by the Community and Parents can be found [here](#).

There were no comments or suggestions submitted by the community for the 3rd and 4th quarter update.



Alternate Methods of Instruction Plan

In the event that school cannot be conducted onsite, the [Alternative Methods of Instruction Plan](#) will be implemented. Gentry School District has been approved for 10 days of Alternative Methods of Instruction in one school year should we need to utilize them for weather, widespread illness, or unforeseen conditions created by forces outside of our control (ex. tornado damage).

Gentry School District Ready for Learning Plan Actions and Assurances

1. We will ensure the continuity of teaching and learning by providing a guaranteed and viable curriculum that includes on-site learning (K-12), virtual learning (7-12), and diagnostic assessments (K-8).
2. We will address learning loss from the prior year through a robust response to intervention system, updated curriculum and instructional materials, and learning extension opportunities.
3. We will continue to utilize a Learning Management System.
4. We will continue to provide teacher training for how to use the LMS.
5. We will continue to support students and families with all aspects of schooling moving forward post-pandemic.
6. We will continue implementation of a communication plan for interacting with parents, students, and the community in the event of a school closure or new information obtained.

Action #1

We will ensure the continuity of teaching and learning by providing a guaranteed and viable curriculum that includes on-site learning (K-12), virtual learning (7-12), and diagnostic assessments (K-8).

Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum

A **guaranteed and viable curriculum** will be implemented through the Gentry School District [instructional model](#). The instructional model will be implemented in on-site for students in grades K-6 and on-site or virtually for students in grades 7-12.

On-Site Instruction will be available for K-6, and students in grades 7-12 will choose from on-site instruction or may apply to enroll as a full time student in Virtual Arkansas.

The **diagnostic assessment** to be used to identify students' strengths and weaknesses and develop individual instructional plans for addressing unfinished learning and shape decisions to be made for new learning will be NWEA MAP in grades K-12.

Additionally, local common formative assessments, reading screeners that align with the Science of Reading, and HMH math inventories will be used to identify area of need for point in time remediation and enrichment needs in all grades and subject areas.

School Plans, Procedures, Protocols

Gentry Primary School

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1e3cRok5srAlcR2gRJWV9E_eCO-BVU6xFztoQjOTVuyI/edit#slide=id.p

Gentry Intermediate School

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UM-sA7kP5iudBribX0d-Q9qmRjnpiyKC/view?usp=sharing>

Gentry Middle School and Gentry High School

All Middle School classes will utilize Google Classroom each day. This will provide students that are absent the opportunity to be as current as possible if they are not present for the day at school.

Virtual Learning Plan (Grades 7–12)

Gentry Schools recognizes that older students still may need the flexibility of virtual learning. With this in mind, the district will offer families of students in grades 7-12 two choices for schooling in the Fall.

Families may choose **on-site** or virtual learning through **Virtual Arkansas**.

On-site learning will consist of on-site instruction that is a combination of face-to-face instruction in a classroom and interaction with teachers, content, assignments, and assessments in a digital platform.

Virtual Learning will be offered through Virtual Arkansas. Students who choose this setting will continue to be students of Gentry School District and may participate in AAA sanctioned sports and activities. They will be enrolled in Virtual Arkansas courses full time and access their teachers.

The State Board approved Digital Learning Plan for Gentry School District can be found [here](#).

On-site Learning Platforms and Content

School	On-site Learning Platform	Content Provider
Gentry Primary School	Seesaw, Google Classroom	Gentry School District Instructional Units based on Essential Standards from Arkansas State Standards for each subject
Gentry Intermediate School	Google Classroom	Gentry School District Instructional Units based on Essential Standards from Arkansas State Standards for each subject
Gentry Middle School	Google Classroom, Summit Learning	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Gentry School District Instructional Units based on Essential Standards from Arkansas Standards for each subject.2. Summit Learning is utilized in 8th Grade for ELA, Science, and Social Studies.
Gentry High School	Google Classroom, APEX Learning	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Gentry School District Instructional Units based on Essential Standards from Arkansas State Standards for each subject2. APEX Learning Content will be utilized in designated APEX classes.

Action #2

We will address learning loss from the prior year through a robust response to intervention system, updated curriculum and instructional materials, and learning extension opportunities.

Recovering Learning Loss/ Credit Recovery

Opportunities for recovering learning loss and credits:

Summer School at Gentry High School

Two sessions of summer school were offered in the summer of 2022 to all students to recover lost learning and/or credits lost during the 2021-22 school year. Hired a full-time learning loss teacher to address credit recovery during the school year.

Summer Learning Camps at Gentry Intermediate

Two summer learning camps were held at GIS in the summer of 2022 to recoup learning lost as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Learning loss will be further addressed through updated curriculum and instructional materials, extended learning opportunities during the school year, and implementation of a robust response to intervention system.

A three week window (August 16-September 3) will be used for **student screening**. The PLC process will be employed to determine student need.

Units of instruction and resources developed by Gentry School District alignment teams will also be used to address learning loss.

GMS will use a protected 45 minutes per school day period for targeted intervention based on weekly assessments.

Action #3

We will continue to utilize a Learning Management System.

Learning Management Systems

Seesaw (K-2)

This LMS is compatible with Google Classroom and contains features that are very similar to Google Classroom so that families with students enrolled in multiple schools in our district should not have difficulty switching between platforms. This platform is more user friendly for small children and provides a digital environment that is more suitable for K-2 learners.

Google Classroom (K-12 grades)

All classrooms (K-12) will utilize Google Classroom as their LMS.

APEX Learning (grades 9-12)

APEX Learning platform will be used in conjunction with Google Classroom for Spanish, some elective classes, credit recovery classes, the Expelled with Services program, and the ALE at GHS.

Action #4

We will offer ongoing **teacher training** for how to use the selected **Learning Management Systems**.

Learning Management Systems Training

Planned Training Opportunities:

NWAESC Sessions

PLC Process training and support from Solution Tree

Bloomboard Microcredentials

High Reliability Teacher Training Program

DESE training and certification opportunities

Specific topics requested by teachers

Training requested by teachers supporting their professional growth plans

Action #5

We will continue to support students and families with all aspects of schooling moving forward post-pandemic.

Technology Support for Parents and Students

Each student will be provided with the following daily for onsite and virtual learning:

Chromebook with touch screen and charger (K-2)

Chromebook and charger (3-12)

iPads will be available for students with special needs in which this is more appropriate.

Families have daily access to a chromebook and printer in the Parent Center at each building.

A **hotline** has been set up for families to reach the Technology Department directly for LMS and device help.

Families who do not have adequate internet access to support virtual learning will have access to the following:

District Wi-Fi accessible in any school parking lot and the Gentry Public Library for free (A list of free access locations in Gentry will be provided as a resource to parents.)

Hot spots will be available for students who are designated as homeless and for families in extreme situations of hardship. Families can contact their school counselor to inquire about checking one out.

Academic Support for Families and Students

Family Literacy Night and other Family and Community Engagement events will be held to provide ongoing academic support for caregivers and students as we transition to a post-pandemic era.

If we are unable to hold a face-to-face event, we will provide the option to participate via **Zoom and/or live streaming**. Zoom sessions will be recorded for new families that enroll in our district. Recordings will also be available in Spanish.

Events and information about academic supports will be distributed through **FACE Informational Packets** at each building. Videos will also be archived on the district webpage for easy family access.

Academic Support for Families and Students

Teachers will be available to families to provide academic support whether we are on or off-site. This includes students enrolled in Virtual Arkansas (grades 7-12). Families and students will be able to communicate with teachers through the following:

1. Email
2. Phone call
3. Zoom/Google Meet conference
4. Zoom/Meet office hours
5. Message through learning platform
6. Message through Remind 101, Class Dojo, or Talking Points
7. In person conference by appointment with health and safety guidelines in place

Special Populations will be continually supported through implementation of their collaboratively developed individual plans. Teachers will be in consistent contact with families to ensure continuity of services. Zoom meetings will be scheduled individually with families and include a translator for non-English speaking parents to provide support as needed.

FACE events targeting special populations will be held to support families with special needs including English Language Learners with navigating post-pandemic learning. A translator will be present to assist non-English speaking families.

Parent Teacher Conferences (Fall and Spring)

Ongoing regular communication with families regarding student progress is the standard expectation for onsite and virtual students (grades 7-12).

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held as scheduled according to the calendar. At this time, we plan for conferences to be held on-site. If circumstances are such that it is safer to hold them virtually, the conferences may be virtual through Zoom, on-site, or a combination.

In the event that conferences must be held virtually, each building will develop a schedule and sign up procedures for their conference events.

Directions on how to sign up for a virtual conference will be explicitly explained and advertised to families in a language they can understand.

Parent Centers in each building will be available to parents for utilization by appointment to ensure health and safety guidelines are met.

Social Emotional Support for Families and Students

Elementary Schools will implement Choose Love as a social emotional support curriculum.

Elementary and Secondary Schools teachers and students will also have access to the Navigate 360 SEL Platform that provides targeted support for students after an assessment of needs has been conducted. This includes support for families.

Pioneer Families Learn Together is the district Family and Community Engagement (FACE) program that includes all FACE activities and programs. This program will include information about options and resources that are available to families through the school and community. Funds from the FACE set aside may be used to purchase age appropriate resources for social emotional support for families to utilize K-12.

School Counselors-Each counselor has their own Google Classroom. In the event that their school has pivoted to off-site instruction, they will continue to provide student services by organizing small groups of selected students for non-confidential Zoom meetings and address topics such as working on behavior/effort. Live instruction for SEL lessons will also be pushed out to each classroom. A link to an assistance request form that parents or students can complete to express needs confidentially will be posted on the stream page of each counselor's Google Classroom page.

Physical Support for Families and Students in Need

The community of Gentry and Benton County provides a number of **community resources** for those in need. A running list that will be made available to parents in each buildings' FACE informational packet.

Support and resources for students experiencing **homelessness** will be provided through the counselors' offices at each school. Counselors will utilize homeless set aside funds and community partnerships to support student needs.

The **counselors' offices** at each building in Gentry School District is poised and ready to support the needs of students through the implementation of their [Comprehensive Support Services Plan](#).

Action #6

We will implement a **communication plan** for interacting with parents, students, and the community.

Communication Plan: Gentry School District

Gentry School District will communicate with parents, students, and the community regarding day-to-day expectations. All communication will occur regularly and promptly at the district and building levels. Initial communication regarding the Ready For Learning Plan has been and will continue to occur regularly and transparently.

Methods of communication:

1. [District Webpage](#)
2. Social Media-District and Building sites
3. Swift Alert System (call, text, email in chosen language)
4. Talking Points
5. Class Dojo or other classroom communication system

Links to Updates and Communications

A district YouTube channel has been set up as a central location for district and building video updates.

Parent Information [Videos](#)

Family Training Videos can be found [here](#) in the Parent Training Videos tab.



District Support and
School Improvement
Plans

District Support Plans

District Support/[Literacy Plan](#)

[Family and Community Engagement Plan](#)

Health and Wellness Plan

[District Dyslexia Plan](#)

[Comprehensive Counseling Plan](#)

School Improvement Plans

[Gentry Primary School](#)

[Gentry Middle School](#)

[Gentry Intermediate School](#)

[Gentry High School](#)



District Safety Procedures and Protocols

Continuity of Operations for the 2022-2023 School
Year

CONTINUED DISTRICT SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Disinfecting
- Ventilation
- Promoting good hand hygiene
- Disposable masks available upon request
- Students or Staff who are sick should stay home

Positive Case and Probable Close Contact Guidelines

QUARANTINE: Staff Members or Students

- On February 2, 2022, the Governor of Arkansas removed the mandate for schools to quarantine close contacts. Based on that fact Gentry Schools will no longer require close contacts to quarantine. Therefore, there is no need to report close contact of a known COVID positive person to the district.

ISOLATION: Staff Members or Students (for a person who has tested positive)

- The Arkansas Department of Health & the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that a person who has tested positive for Covid should self isolate at home for at least 5 days and be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication.
- While the state mandate requiring reporting of a positive case of COVID is no longer in effect, Parents/Guardians can report a students COVID absence to their students campus office for a medical absence.

MASKS:

- While masks are not required, each campus nurses station or campus office will have disposable masks available for staff members or students that requests one.

Ready for Learning Plan Point of Contact

For questions regarding the Ready for Learning/Continuity of Operations Plan

Terrie Metz, Superintendent tmetz@gentrypioneers.com

Christie Toland, Assistant Superintendent ctoland@gentrypioneers.com

COVID-19 Point of Contact 479-525-6370

Jason Barrett, Director of Operations jbarrett@gentrypioneers.com

For questions regarding Technology (devices or connectivity)

Craig Millsap, Technology Director

cmillsap@gentrypioneers.com

For questions regarding special education services

Tahmara Coones, Special Education tcoones@gentrypioneers.com

For questions regarding building specific programming or procedures

Justin Blanchard, GHS Principal Danielle Freeman, GMS Principal

Kristen Smartt, GIS Principal Victoria Groomer, GPS Principal

For questions regarding the ESOL Program

Megan Oaks moaks@gentrypioneers.com

For questions regarding Gifted and Talented

Anthony Herbaugh, GT/AP Coordinator aherbaugh@gentrypioneers.com

For questions regarding Family and Community Engagement Programs

Andrea Folger and Scott McCollum, District FACE Coordinators

afolger@gentrypioneers.com smccollum@gentrypioneers.com