Wade Hampton High School

LEADING LIKE GENERALS PARENT NEWSLETTER--JANUARY 15, 2021

IMPORTANT--VIRTUAL ACADEMY UPDATES AND REMINDERS

This message is designed for our Virtual Academy Students.

As we prepare for 2nd Semester, we want to provide several updates related to how we are going to structure our WHHS Virtual Academy. Please view this video created specifically for WHHS students and WHHS parents in our virtual program. There are several key changes to our expectations that we want to make sure you are aware.

https://www.loom.com/share/469066505793447896d32c8e0115ec04

Be reminded that even though the GCS Virtual Program is full-year commitment, parents whose children are enrolled in the Virtual Program may request that their student(s) return to face-to-face instruction for the 2nd semester. Requests will be granted based on space availability in brick-and-mortar schools. Parents must apply separately for each child, and parents must have a Backpack account to complete the request.

Our primary goal is to return our traditional (non-virtual) students to full-time, in-person instruction as soon as it is safe to do so. We are now in the process of phasing some of the current brick-and-mortar students back to full-time, from 2 days to 5 days per week. The physical space of each classroom limits the number of students who can attend while meeting DHEC guidelines.

Please note that because of space limitations, there are currently no open seats for virtual students to return to brick-and-mortar schools. However, for planning purposes, GCS would like to determine how many students are interested in returning next semester.

Dr. Carlos Grant, Principal Mrs. Avery Davis, WHHS Virtual Academy Administrator

STUDENT ATTENDANCE (IN-PERSON STUDENTS)

We have heard from a significant number of parents who do not want to commit their student to the Virtual Program for the remainder of this school year (because they may not have the option to return to in-person class if conditions improve), but they also do not want to send their children in accord with the current attendance plan because of the high COVID spread in our community. To ensure consistency across the district:

- Be reminded that parents have the ability to "excuse" 10 of their children's absences. As Principal, Dr. Grant has the option of considering hardships or individual circumstances to allow further absences.
- Once parents make the choice between the Virtual and Traditional programs, their children are expected to follow that program's attendance plan. They are not allowed to choose the traditional (in-person) and simultaneously stay home for full-time eLearning.
- At the high school level, students who are "excused" by a parent note can participate in
 eLearning during those 10 days since classes are being livestreamed and eLearning is still
 occurring for the 25% of in-person students who are home each day on the 75% plan.
- When students are not physically present in the building on a scheduled attendance day, students will be marked absent, whether they are elementary, middle, or high school students.

HS STUDENTS INCREASED IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION

Beginning Tuesday, January 19, 2021, <u>Greenville County Schools</u> will increase the amount of inperson attendance for high school students from 40-percent to 75-percent. This means students who currently attend in-person classes two days a week on Attendance Plan 2 will attend four days a week, except for one week each month when they have three days of inperson classes instead of four. Career Center students will also see an increase in face-to-face instruction with most Level I and Level II courses returning to 5 days a week. Additionally, high school self-contained special education students will go from 4 days of in-person attendance to five.

Students will engage in eLearning on days they are not physically in class. On eLearning days, teachers will offer streamed and/or recorded instruction. Additionally, Career Center students (Level I and Level II) will move to 5 days a week in person instruction, with a few exceptions depending on the location, class, number of students, etc. Bus riders without transportation can take the bus to their high school every day and catch the bus to the career center. Those career center students who use bus transportation on days their color group does not attend high school and cannot arrange transportation home, will be supervised at the high school or career center during the portion of the day they are not in career center classes.

Please see the graphic visuals below that we created to give students a specific picture of what their in-person schedule will look like. We are using this in our communicate with families each month. We will make large posters to hang around the school, send out through parent newsletters, post on the website and post on social media.

n A-D	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
January 18-22	MLK Jr Day NO SCHOOL	At Home			
January 25-29	***	At Home			
February 1-5		At Home			
February 8-12		At Home			At Home

A-D PRINT FRIENDLY PDF

n E-K	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
January 18-22	MLK Jr Day NO SCHOOL				
January 25-29	At Home		***		***
February 1-5	At Home				At Home
February 8-12	At Home				

E-K PRINT FRIENDLY PDF

👖 L-Q	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
January 18-22	MLK Jr Day NO SCHOOL			At Home	
January 25-29				At Home	At Home
February 1-5				At Home	
February 8-12				At Home	

L-Q PRINT FRIENDLY PDF

n-Z	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
January 18-22	MLK Jr Day NO SCHOOL		At Home		At Home
January 25-29	***		At Home		***
February 1-5	***	***	At Home		***
February 8-12	***	***	At Home	***	***

R-Z PRINT FRIENDLY PDF

PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION (JAN. 20, 2021)

We want to draw your attention and highlight that we are following the same guidelines issued during the last Presidential Inauguration.

We know that a number of teachers have made plans to watch inaugural events as part of classroom instruction. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss our nation's history, the peaceful transfer of power that is in many ways at the heart of our government by and for the people, the roles of the three branches of our government, etc.

In keeping with our past practices, the decision to watch the inaugural events is an instructional one that should be tied to State standards for that course and made at the classroom and school level. Per our long-standing instructional policy, parents have the ability to opt out, thereby preventing their students from watching the inauguration. Those students who opt out will receive an alternate assignment regarding presidential inaugurations, U.S. history, or a similar topic.

Teachers will <u>notify parents if they intend to view the inauguration</u>. This will give parents time to determine their preference and, if so inclined, send a written request to opt out.

Please see our GCS Board Policy IFA - http://www.boarddocs.com/sc/greenville/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=AGMK5Z501A11

YEARLONG AP CLASSES & DUAL CREDIT SCHEDULE MODIFICATION

Is your student taking yearlong AP courses (Government, Economics, Chemistry, and/or Biology) and/or a dual credit courses (English 101, English 102, Marketing 101, and/or Management 101)?

Due to the Greenville Tech schedule and students who are taking both yearlong AP courses as well as dual credit courses, regardless of the color designation these students will attend A-day classes on Mondays and Wednesdays and B-day classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Fridays will rotate between A-day and B-day.

Tuesday, January 19th is a B-day, Wednesday, January 20th and Friday, January 22nd are A-days. Please make sure that your student is in attendance for B-day classes on Tuesday and A-day classes on Wednesday.

If you have questions, please email your student's yearlong AP or dual credit teacher.

ORDER GRADUATION SUPPLIES THIS WEEK AT WHHS

Seniors! It's time to order your Graduation Announcements, Accessories, Senior Apparel and your Cap & Gown!

Representatives from Herff Jones will be here Wednesday, January 20th & Thursday, January 21st during all lunches to take orders.

This is your LAST chance to order supplies in-person. A \$100 down payment is required for all graduation announcement orders. You can also order online at highschool.herffjones.com.

Graduation Announcement down payments may be made by money order, cashier's check, cash, credit card or check.

Please note that any online order placed after January 31st will not receive the Early Order discount so make sure and place your order with Herff Jones next week.

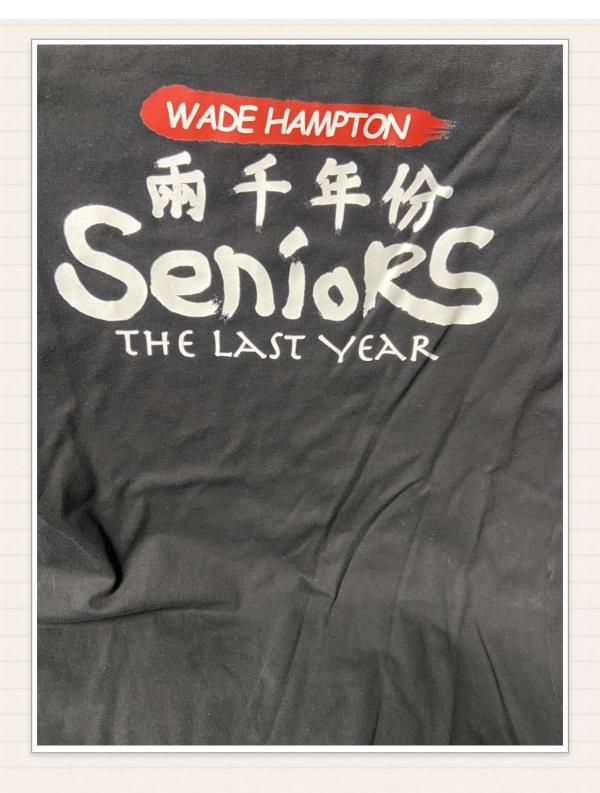


CLASS OF 2021 SENIOR T-SHIRTS ARE IN!

This year's shirt was designed by our very own Student Body President, Rocky McCrary and Senior Class President, Sydney Dunlap. Seniors can pick up their shirt on Wednesday, January 20th or Thursday, January 21st during all lunches. If you haven't already, you can also pay your \$25 senior dues and order graduation caps & gowns at this time.

Questions can be emailed to Mrs. Ellerbe at aellerbe@greenville.k12.sc.us or Coach Hunter at ghunter@greenville.k12.sc.us.

Dues can also be paid on myschoolbucks.com.



JULIE VALENTINE PRESENTS A WORKSHOP TO PARENTS ABOUT: SEXTING, AND ADOLESCENT TRAUMA/RISK



Sexting: Childhood & Adolescent Trauma/Risk

January 28th, 2021 - 6:30-7:30pm



Join us for a live conversation as we discuss important information about the risk and trauma of sexting for children and adolescents. Learn the warning signs, important safety and talking tips, legal risks, and how to connect and be online safely.

Presenter: Tonya Stewart, M.Ed, LPC Child Therapist Julie Valentine Center



https://tinyurl.com/y5ms32x8

JulieValentineCenter

THE GREENVILLE ALTERNATIVE TEACHER EDUCATION (GATE) PROGRAM

The Greenville Alternative Teacher Education (GATE) Program is now accepting applications for the 2021-2022 school year! - The GATE program is a three-year district-based, jobembedded, alternative certification program and is the first of its kind in South Carolina. GATE provides authentic teaching experiences with supportive mentoring and coaching. Greenville County Schools is currently seeking candidates who are interested in teaching math, science, social studies, English, French, or Spanish to middle or high school students. To be considered for the GATE program, candidates must have a bachelor's degree or higher with a major or emphasis in the teaching area of interest. Applications are being accepted NOW! Register to attend an information session or visit the GATE website to learn more about the GATE program. Contact: Dr. Candice Moore, 355-3895.

WE NEED YOU!!!

Parents, YOU might be able to help keep our students in school AND get paid while doing it. We need SUBS/Guest Teachers! When teachers have to be out for long periods of time for

quarantine or in more rare cases positive test results, we do not have enough substitutes to keep all classes covered. Often times the teacher is either teaching remotely or will prepare student materials via Google Classroom, but we still need an adult to supervise classes and make sure all safety protocols are being followed.

If you are able to help serve as a substitute for Greenville County Schools, please <u>follow this</u> <u>link</u> to get started and be sure to let us know (<u>email Dr. Grant!</u>). We will be happy to help facilitate the process. You may choose to work at any school or you can select Wade Hampton exclusively. Work only on the days that fit your schedule. We appreciate your consideration to help the school by serving as a substitute guest teacher!

EMERGENCY PLANNING

GCS instructional personnel and students should take their instructional devices home every night, not just over weekends or holidays. Because we are an approved eLearning district, we are allowed to utilize remote instruction on closure days instead of making that day up at a later time. There are multiple scenarios that could result in a move to eLearning:

- As always, winter weather is a threat in the Upstate of South Carolina, and has the ability
 to force the unexpected closure of school facilities. In that situation, rather than have a
 make-up day later in the year, the district would activate eLearning for the duration of the
 closure.
- Absent a weather event, a school or schools could shift to eLearning temporarily with minimal notice should the number of employee absences due to quarantine, isolation, or other factors exceed the ability of the school and available district personnel to cover all classrooms.
- An individual school or schools could move to eLearning for a single day due to a burst water pipe, power system failure, or countless other reasons associated with the school environment.
- Instructional expectations for 100% eLearning days can be found here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-
 Yk6NyuLEqOyQnXdZBf3rhgCtl99pSZPGaMyz5vVHA0/edit

Linked here for your convenience is an update to the <u>GCS Roadmap</u> that will be posted on the district website today. It helps explain changes to the re-opening plan, now that we have additional information and updated guidance. Also linked is a new <u>graphical representation</u> of DHEC regulations related to isolation (positive COVID) and quarantine (close contact).







As COVID cases in Greenville County and the State of South Carolina continue to rise, Greenville County Schools is asking students, parents, and the greater community to help ensure the return to in-person school in the district is not derailed by rising numbers. GCS is asking all citizens to follow DHEC guidelines to help reverse the current increase: wear a mask when in public, avoid large gatherings, frequently wash or sanitize hands and high-touch surfaces, stay home and away from others when sick, and seek medical advice when running a fever, developing a new or worsening cough, experiencing shortness of breath, or losing the sense of taste or smell.

- Though statistics show individuals are safer from the risk of COVID inside our schools
 where protocols are strict, we could soon reach a tipping point where the number of
 employee absences would make it impossible for us to safely supervise students. This
 would result in a temporary return to eLearning.
- The community can help us stay on track by following recommended precautions outside
 of school: wear a mask when in public, avoid large gatherings, frequently wash or sanitize
 hands and high-touch surfaces, stay home and away from others when sick, and seek
 medical advice when running a fever, developing a new or worsening cough, experiencing
 shortness of breath, or losing the sense of taste or smell.
- Do NOT send students to school who are symptomatic of any contagious disease and follow DHEC instructions on COVID isolations and guarantines.

SCHOOL COUNSELING UPDATES

- Parents of rising Juniors and Seniors: Plan to join our Virtual
 Dual Enrollment Parent Night on Wednesday, January 20th from 6 pm –
 7pm to learn about Greenville Tech's Dual Enrollment classes for college credit. Click the following link to join this meeting at 6 p.m.: https://meet.google.com/cre-ofsj-uwt?
 hs=122&authuser=0
- We will administer the Accuplacer to students on Thursday, January 28th
 at 8:45 a.m. at WHHS for students who are recommended and plan to take English 101,
 Intro to Marketing, and Intro to Management at WHHS next school year. You will hear
 about the benefits of Dual Enrollment courses and be able to ask questions directly to the
 Greenville Tech representative. In order to qualify for these Dual Enrollment courses,
 students must have a score of 480 or higher on the SAT verbal, 19 or higher on the ACT

English, or score at least 253 on the reading and writing on the Accuplacer test. We will work with English teachers to help get appropriate students signed up to take the Accuplacer but the Google form that *students* need to sign up on is listed <u>HERE</u>. Students MUST have their Social Security number with them on the day of the test to be able to log in.

- Career Center applications open on January 18th. Students MUST apply to attend and take classes for the 2021-2022 school year in their Student Backpack accounts.

 Promotional videos for Enoree CC and Bonds CC will be shared with 1st and 3rd block teachers to show to students at the beginning of 2nd semester. We will also post them on the School Counseling webpage. All students are encouraged to apply if they are interested in taking these beneficial and exciting courses. For learn more about their programs, visit their websites by clicking the following link.

 https://sites.google.com/greenvilleschools.us/whhs-counseling/programs/fine-arts-and-career-centers?authuser=0
- Sirrine Scholarship is open for students. Students may apply for a \$2,000 Sirrine Scholarship by visiting the Sirrine Scholarship Application website. The on-line applicant system opened on January 6, 2021. All applications must be submitted online by April 15, 2021. Students will need to upload their SAR (Student Aid Report received from completing the FAFSA). Sirrine Scholarships are awarded for a maximum of four years for undergraduate study at a two- or four-year institution. Sirrine Scholarships are renewable for a maximum of three (3) years, provided the student maintains satisfactory progress toward the completion of his/her program of studies. Renewals are not automatic; the student must reapply each year.
- LaunchGVL is a partnership with the Greenville Chamber of Commerce that offers students paid internships in the Greenville community. We are hosting informational sessions for students to learn more about LaunchGVL. Those are being held January 26th and January 27th at Wade Hampton. Please sign up on the WHHS Counseling website.

PARENT BACKPACK ACCOUNTS

Please create your parent backpack account if you have not already done so by going to https://www.gcsbackpack.com/signin.aspx

Here you can check your student's grades in real time, attendance, and receive text/email notifications sent by the School. After completing the steps to create the account, you will receive a confirmation email telling you to visit the school to verify your identity.

To complete verification...

- 1. **Email a copy of your Government ID to Guidance Clerks** (Mrs. Kirven) at rkirven@greenville.k12.sc.us or (Mrs. Childers) at mchilders@greenville.k12.sc.us.
- 2. One proof of custody is required (See photo below).

- 3. Please ensure your student's name is attached.
- 4. This has to be done prior to your account being approved by the school.

UNDERCLASSMEN DUES

Underclassmen (Grades 9-11) Dues are collected each year to support the projects associated with the corresponding graduation classes. **The Class Dues are \$5!**

This applies to Virtual students and in-person/E-learning students.

Students/Parents can one of three ways:

- 1. Pay dues to students' 1st Block teacher
- 2. Pay in the front office
- 3. Pay online at MySchoolBucks.com

SCHOOLINKS

Schoolinks is a new program that replaced Naviance as students' college and career portfolio. There are many features that the School Counseling Department is still learning about and will be sharing with students in the coming weeks. Students can now access and download their transcripts by logging into their Schoolinks account via Student Backpack in the Education Apps. Seniors will use Schoolinks to track college applications and request transcripts be sent to colleges. For a video guide and pdf information, visit the **School Counseling webpage**.

IMPORTANT ELEARNING AND VIRTUAL REMINDERS



Student Expectations-9.22.20

drive.google.com



Parent Edition--Student Expectat...

drive.google.com



QUESTIONS ABOUT VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION

Can parents or non-students be present and off-camera during virtual instruction?

Parents and legal guardians listening to or watching virtual instruction is permissible pursuant to FERPA and would be similar to a classroom observation. There is practically nothing that a school or teacher can do to prevent other individuals who are with the student from either watching or listening to virtual instruction other than to make sure that the links sent to students for either live instruction or for recordings are secure and not accessible to be joined by non-students.

What about tutors or other individuals who are not parents or guardians helping a student?

As stated in the section immediately above, the reality of virtual instruction is that tutors and other individuals (including siblings) working with a student may have access to either live instruction or recordings while supporting a student. The parents/guardians and/or students are responsible for providing information and assignments to these individuals. While an arrangement between a parent and a tutor is preferred, parents and legal guardians may request specific permission for a tutor or another person supporting a student to be added on a student's account either in Google Classroom or in Student Backpack. Please see the below links for instructions on the process for an individual to be added to a student's Google Classroom or Backpack account.

Google Classroom: https://youtu.be/k7wPhKBH6JA

Student Backpack: https://youtu.be/0XLF3QBeGk0

TECHNOLOGY TROUBLE SHOOTING SOLUTIONS

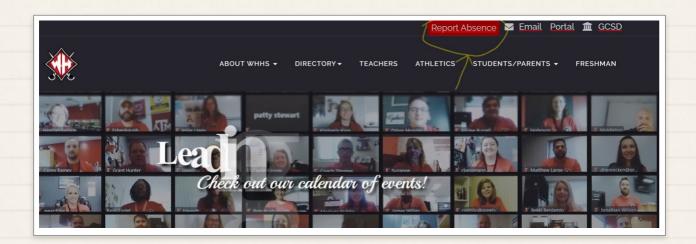
Microphone and Camera Not Working

Not Connecting to Home Internet

<u>Update Chrome Operating System</u>

Videos Not Playing

STUDENT ATTENDANCE



Parents should report students absences by using the Report Absences tab located on the <u>school's homepage</u>. Parents should report early dismissals by emailing the Attendance Clerk at <u>pksmith@greenville.k12.sc.us</u>

THE GENERALS SCHOOL STORE

The school store will be open every Wednesday and Thursday during all FOUR lunches.







WHHS PUBLIC CALENDAR

This calendar contains information pertinent to the general public and WHHS greater community. All athletic events, performances, and school-wide dates are placed on the calendar.



