GRIFFIN FOUNDATION SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Mitigation

CENTERS FOR DISEASES CONTROL AND PREVENTION:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES:

https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/index.php#novel-coronavirus-home

Strategies

- Students are required to wear a Face Mask.
- Practice social distancing.
- Stay home when you are sick/fever 100 degree or higher.
- Check students' temperature before entering school.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) and immediately throw the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Wearing Face Covering

Practice Putting Face Covering On/Off. GFSD mandates all K-8 students and staff wear a face covering at school. Teach your child to not touch the inside of their face covering when taking it off and to not touch or play with the face covering while on. Face Coverings. Consider having multiple face coverings to give you proper time to wash them between use. It is recommended to wash and dry face coverings daily.

DO YOUR PART to slow the spread of COVID-19:

COVID – 19 is a novel virus that spreads through respiratory droplets that are coughed, sneezed, or sprayed (when talking, shouting, etc.). sometimes before the person infected has any symptoms of illness (pre-symptomatic) and when the infected person has no symptoms at all (asymptomatic). Because this is a new virus, medical experts around the world are still learning the most effective ways to prevent its transmission. To date, there is significant research that shows wearing a cloth face covering can provide some protection to both the individual wearing it as well as others around them.

CDC suggests that all school reopening plans address adherence to behaviors that prevent the spread of COVID-19. When used consistently and correctly, along with important mitigation strategies, cloth face coverings are important to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Other important mitigation strategies include social distancing, washing hands, and regular cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces in schools and buses. CDC provides considerations for wearing cloth face coverings and recommends that people wear cloth face coverings in public settings and when around people who live outside of their household. The use of cloth face coverings is especially important when social distancing is difficult to maintain.

Cloth face coverings are recommended as a simple barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when the person wearing the cloth face covering coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice. Cloth face coverings are an example of source control. Several studies¹⁻¹³ have documented asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 transmission; meaning that people with COVID-19 who never develop symptoms (asymptomatic) and those who are not yet showing symptoms (pre-symptomatic) can still transmit the virus to other people. Cloth face coverings are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected. Cloth face coverings are not personal protective equipment, such as surgical masks or respirators.

The use of <u>cloth face coverings</u> in educational settings may present challenges, particularly for younger students and students with special healthcare or educational needs. This document provides guidance to help school administrators decide how to best implement the wearing of cloth face coverings — in their school settings and facilities, including but not limited to buses and other shared transportation.

Education and promotion of positive and supportive relationships should remain the primary focus of school administrators, teachers, and staff. This guidance provides K-12 school administrators with strategies to encourage students to wear face coverings, consistent with CDC guidance, while maintaining a positive learning environment.

General Considerations

COVID-19 can be spread to others even if you do not feel sick. A <u>cloth face covering</u> helps prevent a person who is sick from spreading the virus to others. Appropriate and consistent use <u>of cloth face coverings</u> is most important when students, teachers, and staff are indoors and when social distancing of at least 6 feet is difficult to implement or maintain.