



Global Outreach Charter Academy High School #573

Tuition - Free Public School

1252 Fromage Way, Jacksonville, FL 32225

hsinfo@gocacademy.com / www.gocahs.com

Hello GOCA Parents, Students, and Faculty,

We hope that this letter finds you well, safe, and enjoying the summer break. We have been working hard to ensure an opening of the new Global Outreach Charter Academy High School that is both academically sound and safe. As this is an unprecedented time for all of us, we are sure you have concerns and questions regarding the plan that GOCA will have in place for the upcoming school year.

Based on the input from all stakeholder groups, including parents, students, teachers, and with the approval of our Board of Directors, we have finalized a plan that will best serve our student population while keeping in mind the needs of our parents. Understanding that consistency is part of the key to our student's success, the following two options are presented to our families.

Option 1: Brick and Mortar

Students will return to school full-time Monday through Friday. Below is a list of safety measures that will be in place to meet the CDC and District guidelines for keeping our students safe.

1. As students arrive in the morning, while still in their cars, they will have their temperature checked by one of our faculty members utilizing a touchless thermometer. Should a student have a temperature reading of 100.4°F or above, they will not be allowed to attend school. The student will be able to return to school once they have been symptom free for 24 consecutive hours.
2. As it has been the case prior to Covid-19, our janitorial staff will regularly wipe down all common areas throughout the day. This procedure includes doorknobs, handrails, and cafeteria tables after breakfast and between lunches. The school will also receive nightly and weekly sanitizing to include desks, chairs, doors, handles, and any other commonly touched surfaces.
3. To minimize the number of students in any one area and to help with social distancing, three strategies will be implemented:
 - a. Classes have been arranged to minimize the need for students to move from floor to floor. Ninth grade courses are on the first floor and tenth grade courses are on the second floor.
 - b. The bell schedule has been created to include two (2) four-minute transitions. Half of the students on each floor will move during the first transition and then the other half during the second transition. Class time will not start until the second group of students has arrived to class.
 - c. For lunch, half of the students will attend first lunch, with one class having the opportunity to utilize the outdoor eating area. If the weather does not allow for outdoor eating, the students will be able to eat in one of the classrooms. This same scenario will be in place for the second lunch and allow for social distancing as much as possible.
4. Every student will have their own Chromebook and textbook, thereby eliminating the sharing of resources and adding another layer of safety to our campus.
5. In compliance with the executive order from our mayor, face masks will be required for all students and staff during times when we are unable to maintain a social distance of at least 6 ft. We will also continue to monitor local, state, and federal guidelines regarding masks and adjust our policies accordingly. The school will be purchasing cloth face masks that will be made available for all students and staff.

6. Students will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently on a regular basis and required to wash them before exiting the restroom. A hand sanitizer dispenser will be placed on the wall inside each classroom or a hand sanitizing station will be in the classroom. In classes where hands-on activities are a requirement, students will be provided with gloves.
7. At the end of class, students will be provided with a disposable, disinfectant cloth to wipe down their desk and then sanitize their hands as they leave the classroom.
8. Families will have until September 4, 2020 to switch to Option 2.

Option 2: Innovative Learning

We understand that although some families are pleased with the high level of education that GOCA provides for their student, they are not comfortable with sending their student(s) back to school at this time. We read your comments and are prepared to offer Option 2.

Students choosing Option 2, will follow their school schedule through innovative learning at home. Students will receive synchronous instruction via their Chromebook and hybrid curriculum. Teachers will schedule after school learning for those subjects which require hands-on activities. The same precautions taken during Option 1 will be in place for Option 2.

Families who choose to participate in Option 2 are asked to sign a 9-week commitment form. A copy of the commitment form can be found on the website at www.gocaHS.com under the Parent tab, **20-21 Option 2 Form**. If a commitment form is not submitted, the student will be automatically scheduled in Option 1. Families who choose to participate in Option 1 do not need to do anything outside of submitting a completed application.

We hope this plan shows the level of commitment that we have to our GOCA families. The safety and well being of our students is important to us as well as their academic success. We will continue to review our policies and revise if necessary to safeguard against the spread of any illness on our campus.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at hsinfo@gocacademy.com or www.gocaHS.com. We look forward to the opening of our new high school campus and are excited about partnering with you in the academic achievements of your student.

Thank you for your time and understanding. Please enjoy the rest of your summer and we look forward to seeing our future leaders on campus in August.

Sincerely,

Ms. Whittingham, Principal
Global Outreach Charter Academy High School