

Gurney Elementary School

CHAGRIN FALLS EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Rachel Jones, Principal • Sarah Read, Assistant Principal

November 4, 2020

Dear Gurney Parents,

The Gurney Staff and I are excited to share with you our plans for full days of school - both in person and virtual! But first, THANK YOU for working with us to make the first trimester a success! During a time of great uncertainty, you leapt with us into two school models that had only ever existed on paper - Hybrid and Virtual Academy. With your support, we made connections and now have the 2020-2021 school year moving in the right direction!

Now it's time to prepare for our next steps heading into the second trimester, beginning November 17. What follows is critical information regarding our **virtual school model**.

First, Second and Third Grade Full Day Schedule:

Virtual Academy students in 1st-3rd grade will be expected to attend all live instructional sessions in Zoom/Meet every day for attendance and those sessions will occur between 8:45 am - 2:30/3:00 pm each day. Students will be directly involved in approximately 5 direct instructional sessions each day (some whole class and some small group) - but they will be different lengths of time, ranging from 15-45min. We will be very mindful of the amount of time students are at their screens. When students are not in attendance for an instructional session, they will be marked absent. Teachers are available each day, 3:00 - 3:30 pm to respond to parent emails or calls. Teachers will provide parents and students with their set schedule, Zoom/Meet links and Google Classroom access.

- First Grade Virtual Academy will be taught by Mrs. Vandeweel (Literacy) and Mr. Rooney (Math and Sci/SS). First Grade Encore Day is Thursday each week.
- Second Grade Virtual Academy will be taught by Mrs. Langer. Second Grade Encore Day is Wednesday each week.
- Third Grade Virtual Academy will be taught by Mrs. Todaro. Third Grade Encore Day is Tuesday each week.

Kindergarten Schedule:

Students will continue their current AM/PM schedule of live instruction for literacy and math with assigned, independent lessons and activities for science/social studies, iReady practice, etc. Kindergarten Virtual Academy will be taught by Mr. Wise. Kindergarten Encore Day is Friday each week.



Encore Day:

For K-3rd Grade Virtual Academy classes, Encore lessons/activities will continue to be posted in the Encore Google Classroom for students to complete. Completing all Encore Class activities and submitting them is required for attendance on your child's Encore Day.

Every Encore Day will start with a live Zoom/Meet with either Mr. Tschappat or Mrs. Czerr. They will do a brief morning meeting and then either a guidance lesson or a read aloud with the students before sending them on their way to complete their Encore lessons for the day.

Student Materials Pick-Up:

Parents will need to come up to the school once a week to pick up materials that the children will need for the following week's lessons and activities. This is also a time when parents may be asked to drop off materials that their child will no longer need at home. Class bins for material pick up/drop off will be labeled and placed outside the school front doors. Your child's teacher will inform you of the designated pick up day. If at any time you are unable to pick up materials, please let us know and we will have them delivered.

Special Education/At-Risk Students:

Students identified to receive special education services and/or supplemental instruction because they are at-risk in a subject area will have designated days/times for that instruction with those separate instructors. Parents will be notified prior to November 17 if their child receives these services and if there will be a change in the scheduled times for them.

Lunch:

Boxed lunches will continue to be available to Virtual Academy students! We kindly ask that *parents pre-order lunches for students who are attending Virtual Academy*. When pre-ordering for students who are learning remotely, select the "delivery" menu. Lunches for Virtual Academy students will be home-delivered each morning.

Lunches are free for all students through the end of the school year, regardless of eligibility. No extra snacks or beverages will be sold. Milk will be included with each lunch. You will not need to fill out any forms in order to receive this benefit. Simply pre-order from the lunch menu on the District website or from the Nutrislice app. Your student's lunch account will not be charged.

Lunches can be ordered up to five (5) days ahead of time up until 7:00 am the day of delivery/pickup. You may order lunch for multiple days at a time. Questions? Contact: Marti Jacobson, MS, RD, LD, Food Service Supervisor, marti.jacobson@chagrinschools.org, 440-247-5500 x4492.

On behalf of the entire Gurney Staff, I want to assure you that we will work very hard to keep all of our students progressing in their academics while also finding ways in which they can experience social connections. With your patience and support, we believe we can continue this school year successfully.

Sincerely,
Rachel Jones, Principal