

Community Questions for Town Hall Jan. 13, 2021

Where and when will the electrostatic cleaner be used?

Our focus will be on using the electrostatic cleaner for the bathrooms, since those are the only unavoidably shared spaces.

Will children and staff be exposed to the cleaning solution?

Unlikely. They won't be used in the classroom while the students are in there. Teachers will clean high-touch surfaces in the classrooms before and after lunch, and at other times as needed, with sanitizing cleaner in spray bottles.

Please share more details about the ventilation plan. More details about the filters and air purifiers

Our HVAC system can only take up to MERV 11 filters, which we have installed. The medify air purifiers are MedifyAir MA 40 in the classrooms, and MedifyAir MA 25 in the overflow / secondary spaces.

Between the filters, the purifiers, frequently opened windows, the backup space, and mandatory mask wearing, we feel confident that we have all possible layers of mitigation in place.

Will specialist teachers be entering the classroom to teach? How will those classes be handled?

Not unless that particular specialist teacher is assigned as the second teacher to that class: ie Ms. Comas will be teaching science in person to Grade 4, as she is part of the Grade 4 team.

For all other groups, specialist teachers will give synchronous (live Zoom) instruction to the children at home AND at school.

What will kids at Grace do in the pauses between lessons that are currently part of the CRL schedule?

Since the schedule follows the current CRL schedule, the pauses at Grace will be used for recess breaks, bathroom breaks, snack, lunch, recess, transitions, and independent work and reading.

Students at home will continue learning on the same schedule that they are used to.

How many hours will the day porter (housekeeping staff) be on site?

One housekeeping staff member will be on site every weekday. Wednesday, when we learn remotely, will be a deep cleaning day.

Talk more about bathroom breaks.

Each class (K-5) has very carefully scheduled bathroom times. The bathrooms will be cleaned between groups by our day porter with the electrostatic cleaner.

Of course children may need to go to the bathroom at times that are not on the usual schedule. We will do individual cleaning after that happens.

Do you know more about vaccines for teachers?

In her role as a member of the AISGW board, Jen is in contact with the county to advocate for vaccination for independent school teachers. Teachers are currently in Group 1B, but the County has not reached this phase of its distribution as of today.

Are uniforms required for kids who choose On-Campus Learning?

Uniforms will not be required for any Grace student, whether on campus or learning at home, during the 2020-2021 school year.

Will you require COVID-19 testing at other points in time for the whole community?

Jen is working with a private firm to explore the possibility of being part of a pilot program for testing at Grace.

Can you say more about recess and movement breaks? What would prevent kids from being able to go outside? Will each class have a dedicated outdoor space?

The usual childcare rules for safe outside play will apply.

Each class has a dedicated outdoor space that they may use at any time the teacher deems it prudent.

Morning and afternoon recess breaks are scheduled carefully to avoid cohort contact.

What about Oneness students?

Oneness will not be back on site until further notice. If and when they are, we have a plan for our faculty bathrooms at the north end of the hall that are shared with Oneness students to become single-use bathrooms.

Will you be offering beforecare and aftercare?

Before and aftercare require mixing of cohorts / students across grades. If we had an exposure in one of these programs, we would have to close down multiple classrooms. We know it is inconvenient for many families not to have this option.

If students continue to learn from home, will there be any chance for them to come to school now and then?

We are considering this and will discuss once we get through the first few weeks of on-campus learning.

What happens if a classroom member gets a positive covid test? What is your procedure for reporting and informing?

We will call the health department and follow their instructions to the letter.