

GMS Reopening Community Pledge

From the school's earliest days, GMS has been guided by a community pledge which states that GMS "strives to be a place where all members of the community act honestly and kindly toward themselves and others to foster a positive school climate of mutual support and respect." In the midst of the COVID-19 public health crisis, these principles of the GMS Community Pledge couldn't be more paramount.

Being part of the GMS community means that all of the community members have certain rights and corresponding responsibilities:

- All members of the community have the right to a safe school and the responsibility to keep themselves and others safe.
- All members of the community have the right to rely on others and the responsibility to be reliable and trustworthy.

As we embark upon our school reopening for in-person instruction, we acknowledge that the behaviors of all members of our community, including our students, their families and household members, our staff and their household members, and other members of our community are interconnected and interdependent. We all have an obligation to conduct ourselves in a responsible manner to minimize the chance of COVID-19 exposure or spread, and we also have a right to expect the same level of caution and care from others in the GMS community.

Prior to returning to in-person instruction, we are asking that all families, faculty, and staff members commit to this partnership and shared responsibility.

We agree to limit our household's potential exposure to COVID-19 as much as is practical. This includes:

- Consistently and correctly wearing appropriate face coverings in public and always when at school.
- Practicing social distancing and mask wearing when engaging with people outside of our household.
- Frequent handwashing, using hand sanitizer, and avoiding touching our eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Cleaning and sanitizing high-touch surfaces and shared items outside of our households and at school.
- Limiting our children to **ONE** extracurricular activity, and ensuring that the organizers are following appropriate health and safety guidelines.
- Tightening our social circle by limiting exposure to others outside of our household.
- Avoiding large gatherings, unnecessary travel, or other avoidable activities that bring us into close proximity to people outside of our household. This includes making responsible decisions about holiday activities.
- Complying with the more restrictive of either the California Department of Public Health or our local county public health department orders.
- Complying with any federal, state, or local quarantine requirements following out-of-state or international travel.

We agree to limit potential exposure to others in the GMS community to COVID-19 by:

- Monitoring our health daily and staying home if anyone in our household exhibits symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- Submitting a health screening through Magnus Health each day a member of our household will be coming to campus, prior to arriving on campus.

We agree to follow all school-specific health and safety guidelines, including:

- Reporting to the school (email health@girlsms.org) if someone in our household is sick or exhibiting possible COVID-19 symptoms.
- Reporting to the school if someone in our household has been in close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
- Ensuring that our children will follow all health and safety requirements related to mask-wearing, handwashing, and social distancing.
- Having a strategy in place and being prepared, if needed, to leave school (faculty/staff) or pick up a sick child (parent/caregiver) at the onset of COVID-19 symptoms. Students must be picked up as soon as possible.
- Following Santa Clara County guidelines for isolation and quarantine if a member of our household is diagnosed with COVID-19 or is an identified close contact of a person diagnosed with COVID-19.
- Cooperating in any school or county-based contact tracing efforts.
- Staying up to date with required immunizations.
- Prioritizing getting a flu vaccine this fall for all members of our household, unless we have a medical reason not to.

We understand that The Girls' Middle School is complying with all guidance provided by Santa Clara County Public Health and the California Department of Public Health as it relates to the safe reopening of schools and businesses. GMS is meeting, and frequently exceeding, all requirements and recommendations for a safe school reopening, and details are available on the GMS Family Portal at girlsms.org/my-gms/familyportal.

We understand that public health guidance is subject to change and therefore that GMS policies, procedures, and expectations may change in response.

We understand and acknowledge that, while The Girls' Middle School cannot eliminate the possibility of someone in our community contracting COVID-19, a strong partnership between The Girls' Middle School and our community of students, families, faculty, and staff can go a long way in helping to reduce collective and individual risk and mitigate the spread of COVID-19. We understand that attending school for in-person instruction inherently involves some level of risk and accordingly we accept that risk.

(When you are ready, please sign your pledge in Magnus Health.)