

March 10, 2021

This March 10, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board was held by teleconference pursuant to Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20.

Regular Meeting Minutes

1. **The meeting was called to order at 4:40pm.**
2. **Roll Call –**
Board Members: Heather Fraser Hurtt, Chair, Suzanne Dick, Jennifer Huetter, Brittany Kilby, Stephanie Parmely, Stephen Quadro, Adrianna Wray.

Guests: Caleb Buckley, Amala Easton, Zachary Phillips, Jenni Walthard, Beth Taylor, Samantha Crippin.
3. **Flag Salute/Quote/Moment of Silence –** Caleb Buckley read the Responsibility Virtue Card.
4. **Public Comment –** The board chair summarized the letters that the board has received.
5. **Consent Agenda –**
Action: The Board approved the following items by consent. (Ayes: 7, Noes: 0, Abstain: 0)
 - 5.1 Shall the board approve the **February 10, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes?**
 - 5.2 Shall the board approve the **February 27, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes?**
 - 5.3 Shall the board approve the **School Safety Plan for Golden Valley Tahoe School?**
6. **Faculty Chair Reports –**
Faculty Chair Report, Orchard: The Faculty Chair, Zachary Phillips, presented items of interest to the board.
Faculty Chair Report, River: The Faculty Chair, Jenni Walthard, presented items of interest to the board.
Faculty Chair Report, Tahoe: The Faculty Chair, Beth Taylor, presented items of interest to the board.
7. **2020/2021 Second Interim, Golden Valley Orchard –**
Action: The board approved the second interim budget for Golden Valley Orchard School. (Ayes: 7, Noes: 0, Abstain: 0)
8. **2020/2021 Second Interim, Golden Valley River –**
Action: The board approved the second interim budget for Golden Valley River School. (Ayes: 7, Noes: 0, Abstain: 0)
9. **2020/2021 Second Interim, Golden Valley Tahoe –**
Action: The board approved the second interim budget for Golden Valley Tahoe School. (Ayes: 7, Noes: 0, Abstain: 0)
10. **Mask Exemption Protocol –**

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Action: The board approved the Mask Exemption protocol for Golden Valley Charter Schools.
(Ayes: 7, Noes: 0, Abstain: 0)

11. Return to School Plan –

Action: The board voted to approve the Covid19 Safety Plan (AKA Return to School Plan) with the following changes: (Ayes: 7, Noes: 0, Abstain: 0)

Page 11 correct misspelled “identification” in header

Page 12 AB Cohort Considerations strike all:

~~In addition, children **may** be placed in both cohorts based on space and the following (non-leveled) priorities.~~

- ~~● Children in special ed~~
- ~~● English learners~~
- ~~● Socioeconomic Status~~
- ~~● Employee children~~
- ~~● Siblings* (only considered when building cohorts, no priority for attending both cohorts)~~

Page 21 Multiple cohorts – replace 5% with 3 or more positive tests

Page 62 remove Dr. Olivia Kasire letter from appendix and page 16

12. Reopening Date for GVOS and GVRS –

Action: The board approved a reopening date of March 22 for grades 4, 5, and 6 at Golden Valley Orchard School and Golden Valley River School. (Ayes: 7, Noes: 0, Abstain: 0)

13. Reports –

Executive Director Report: The Executive Director presented items of interest to the board.

Board Chair Report: The Board of Trustees Chair presented items of interest to the board.

14. Closed Session: Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation –

Action/Discussion: The board went go into closed session to discuss significant exposure to litigation pursuant to § 54956.9(b): 1 case. The Board charged the Executive Director to open an independent investigation (Ayes: 7, Noes: 0, Abstain: 0)

15. Closed Session: Annual Review of the Executive Director –

Action/Discussion: The board went into closed session for the annual review of the Executive Director pursuant to (§ 54957). No action was taken.

16. Recitation of the Motto of the Social Ethic – The board recited the Social Ethic.

17. The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 pm.



Golden Valley Charter Schools
Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees
VIRTUAL MEETING
ZOOM

March 10, 2021

Respectfully submitted by Amala Easton.

Heather Fraser Hurtt, Chair

Date



COVID-19 Student Mask Exemption Protocol (Board Approved: 3/10/21)

The Golden Valley Charter Schools (“GVCS” or the “Charter School”) Board approves the following protocols to provide to Charter School staff when implementing mask requirements at school and reviewing exemption requests:

Mask Requirement

Per "[COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Instruction Framework & Public Health Guidance for Ka-12 Schools in California, 2020-2021 School Year](#)" (January 14, 2021):

Students in all grade levels K-12 are required to wear face coverings at all times, while at school, unless exempted.

Persons exempted from wearing a face covering due to a medical condition, as confirmed by school district health team and therapists, must wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, as long as their condition permits it. - p. 18

In order to protect the health and safety of the entire community and in compliance with California Department of Public Health (“CDPH”), GVCS requires all students, kindergarten through 8th grade, to wear face masks at all times when attending in-person school, while mandated by State and/or Local Public Health Agencies. GVCS reserves the right to update these protocols as further guidance becomes available and to modify this policy as needed in the absence of further guidance.

Persons Exempt from the Mask Requirement

Per “[CDPH Memo: Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings](#)” (November 16, 2020) the following persons are exempt from wearing face coverings at all times when outside the home:

- *Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering. This includes persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a face covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance. Such conditions are rare.*
- *Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.*

GVCS recognizes that in rare cases, some students may have a medical or mental health condition or disability as outlined above. Those students will be provided reasonable accommodations.

Process to Request a Mask Exemption

Students who wish to pursue a face mask exemption must adhere to the following protocol. Each step must be completed entirely before proceeding to the next. This process must be completed and approved by GVCS Administration prior to the first day of physical attendance.

- STEP 1: Parent/Guardian meeting with Principal¹
 - Parent/Guardian *requests a meeting* with the Principal.
 - Parent/Guardian *shares the concerns* and issues that may prevent the student from wearing a face mask.

Per CDC guidelines, “When deciding if children and people with certain disabilities should wear a mask, determine if they can:

- (1) Wear a mask correctly
- (2) Avoid frequent touching of the mask and their face
- (3) Limit sucking, drooling, or having excess saliva on the mask
- (4) Remove the mask without assistance”

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html#evidence-effectiveness>

- Parent/Guardian *provides medical documentation*, with the attached form (GVCS Mask Exemption Form), documenting the specific mental health or medical issue(s) that prevent a face mask from being worn and the accommodations or modifications that may be indicated.
 - Medical documentation must indicate and document the specific issues that prevent the student from wearing a face mask.
 - An alternative face covering of a face shield with a drape will be allowed.
 - Medical documentation should include suggested accommodations or modifications, including alternative face coverings, trial periods, breaks, education, support, and/or training.
 - Medical documentation must be signed by a local, currently practicing and licensed medical doctor.
- Parent/Guardian works with the Principal and Administration and Staff in good faith to remedy the concerns and mitigate risk assessment, including an alternative face covering (i.e. a face shield with an attached neck drape), and/or trial periods, education, support, and training.

¹ If the student is a student with an individual education program (“IEP”) or Section 504 Plan, this meeting will occur within an IEP/504 meeting.

- STEP 2: Implementation of Exemptions
 - The exemption will be documented with the attached form. All modifications or accommodations will be noted on the exemption. It will be reviewed, verified, and signed off by the Charter School health team: the Principal, the Teacher of Record, and the Executive Director.
 - Administration will communicate with student families regarding this process.
 - All faculty and staff that interact with the student or student's cohort will be notified of the exemption and accommodation while maintaining student privacy.
 - Additional mitigation strategies and to optimize safety may be put into place in cohorts where there is a student with a mask exemption. This may include regular or increased COVID screening or testing, increased social distancing, clear plastic barriers, reducing time in shared environments, decreased number of students in the cohort, and/or outdoor or highly ventilated indoor spaces.

Those who receive an exemption may be more susceptible to COVID-19 spread and quarantine, as that student will not have the same level of protection as those who wear a face mask.

This protocol may continue to be updated per CDPH and Local Public Health Agency guidelines and requirements.

Development of this plan was informed by:

Memo: California Department of Education - 2/11/21
COVID-19: Students with Disabilities and Face Coverings:
<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se/lr/om021121.asp>

CDC: Guidance for Wearing Masks - 2/18/21:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html#evidence-effectiveness>

CDPH: Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings - 11/16/20:
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/guidance-for-face-coverings.aspx>

CDPH: Blueprint for a Safer Economy - 2/23/21 - See "Risk Criteria"
<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/COVID19CountyMonitoringOverview.aspx>

CDPH: COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Instruction Framework & Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California, 2020-2021 School Year - January 14, 2021
https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/Consolidated_Schools_Guidance.pdf



Sacramento County Public Health Order -2/11/21 "ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO DIRECTING ALL INDIVIDUALS LIVING IN THE COUNTY TO CONTINUE TO STAY AT HOME OR AT THEIR PLACE OF RESIDENCE AND CLOSING OR MODIFYING CERTAIN OPERATIONS"; p. 3, #7
https://www.saccounty.net/COVID-19/Documents/20210208_Sacramento_County_Order.pdf

CDPH - Face Shield: FAQ (November 2020)
https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/COVID-19/faceshield_handout.pdf

COVID-19 Student Mask Exemption Request and Medical Certification

In order to protect the health and safety of the entire community and in compliance with California Department of Health, Golden Valley Charter Schools requires all students, kindergarten through 8th grade, to wear face masks at all times when attending in-person school, while mandated by State and/or Local Public Health Agencies.

GVCS recognizes that in rare cases, some students may have a medical or mental health condition or disability that would impede them from “properly wearing or handling a face covering, those with a communication disability, or when it would inhibit communication with a person who is hearing impaired.”¹ Those students will be reasonably accommodated with an exemption.

In order to receive an exemption from applicable face covering requirements, this form must be filled out, submitted, and approved by GVCS Administration prior to the first day of physical attendance.

Those who receive an exemption from wearing a face covering may be more susceptible to COVID-19 spread, as that student will not have the same level of protection as those who wear a face mask.

Student Name:	DOB:
Home Address:	School/Grade:
Student currently has: <input type="checkbox"/> Individualized Education Program (IEP) <input type="checkbox"/> Section 504 Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care Plan <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	

Parent Consent for Exchange of Information	
I affirm that my student has been diagnosed with the medical or mental health condition or disability described below. I consent to the release of related medical documentation and authorize the medical provider identified below to verify and discuss the condition with authorized GVCS personnel.	
Parent/Guardian Name (Print):	Phone:
Parent/Guardian Signature:	Date:

¹ ["COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Instruction Framework & Public Health Guidance for Ka-12 Schools in California, 2020-2021 School Year"](#) (January 14, 2021)



Medical Documentation:

I, the undersigned, certify that I am this child's
 primary care physician
 other _____ (please specify)

I have been treating this child since _____ .
Month and year

I certify that I have conducted a physical examination and evaluation of this child consistent with the relevant standard of care. As this student's health care provider, I certify that the student has a medical or mental health condition or disability that would impede them from properly wearing or handling a face covering or has a communication disability or use of a mask would inhibit communication with a person who is hearing impaired.

State the reason(s) why it is not medically advisable for the student to wear a face covering:

Accommodations/Modifications:

Based on the nature of this student's impairment:

___ A face shield with an attached neck drape WOULD BE a reasonable alternative to a face mask.

___ A face shield with an attached neck drape WOULD NOT BE a reasonable alternative to a face mask.

Additional recommendations for accommodations or modifications to this face mask exemption include (i.e. clear face mask, or face mask with a window, trial periods, breaks, education, support, and/or training):

___ This medical exemption is permanent

___ This medical exemption is temporary and expires (Date): _____



Name, Business Address, and Telephone number of Physician (Print):
Signature of Physician:
Medical License Number:
Date:

OFFICE USE
This exemption has been reviewed and approved by:
Verification of Medical Exemption (Staff Name, Signature, Date):
Principal (Staff Name, Signature, Date):
Executive Director (Staff Name, Signature, Date):
Teacher (Staff Name, Signature, Date):
Cohort Notification made (Staff Name, Signature, Date):
Notes:

Our current policy on Face Coverings is copied below:

GOLDEN VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOLS REOPENING PLAN – 2021.03.05

GOLDEN VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOLS COVID SAFETY PLAN

Page 8

AND

COVID 19 Prevention Plan – CPP / COVID 19 School Guidance Checklist 2.12.21 / 3.10.21
(BLUE) Page 8

FACE COVERINGS

- Golden Valley Charter Schools (“GVCS”) follows all California Department of Public Health (“CDPH”) requirements for face coverings and the [COVID-19 and Reopening In-Person Instruction Framework & Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California 2020-2021 School Year \(January 14, 2021\)](#).
- Golden Valley Charter Schools requires face coverings for all students kindergarten through 8th grade while on campus unless they “have a medical or mental health condition or disability that would impede them from properly wearing or handling a face covering, those with a communication disability, or when it would inhibit communication with a person who is hearing impaired.” [GVCS has developed mask exemption protocol and a corresponding form to be used when requesting an exemption.](#)
- All adults (faculty, staff, and parents) on campus are required to wear face coverings. All child visitors over age two are required to wear face coverings. (Keep link to) [See CDC for acceptable face coverings.](#)

STUDENTS

- All students must wear face coverings while on campus.
- Students who arrive without a mask will be provided a disposable mask.
- Face coverings must fit properly and fully cover the nose and mouth.
- ~~Students who refuse to wear masks will be required to distance learn only.~~ GVCS must exclude students from campus if they are not exempt from wearing a face covering under CDPH guidelines and refuse to wear one provided by the School. GVCS will offer an

alternative educational opportunity for these students who are excluded from campus because they will not wear a face covering.

STAFF

- All staff must use face coverings at all times while on campus.
- Face coverings must fit properly and fully cover the nose and mouth.
- GVCS will teach and reinforce use of face coverings.

VISITORS

- All visitors over the age of 2 must wear face coverings in accordance with CDPH guidelines
- Face coverings must fit properly and fully cover the nose and mouth

GVCS reserves the right to update this policy as further guidance becomes available and to modify this policy as needed in the absence of further guidance.