



Ben L. Smith High School

2407 S. Holden Road
Greensboro, NC 27407
(336) 294-7300

Melvin Marshall
Principal



January 5, 2021

Dear Smith HS Parents:

We sincerely hope that you and your families are Healthy & Safe as we enter the 2021 calendar year! While we sincerely miss our students, we're proudly anticipating the return of our students later in January. In anticipation of student returns we want to share some important information:

1. Parents still have the opportunity to choose to have their child to continue to be remote and to not be required to come onto campus at all for the remainder of the school. If a parent desires to have their child remain a remote learner, please make contact with our school's Guidance Office at (336) 294-7300.
2. Since we are only allowed to have 50% of students on our campus at one time, we divided our entire student body into 2 Cohort Groups:
 - a. Students with Last Name starting with letters **A-L** are in **Cohort A** (ex: Shane King will be in Cohort A)
 - b. Students with Last Name starting with letters **M-Z** are in **Cohort B** (ex: Suzanne Ruiz-Alvarez will be in Cohort B)
 - c. Some students may be grouped in a different cohort based on their scheduling needs or to accommodate family siblings
3. **Cohort A** students will attend school on **Mondays & Tuesdays** while **Cohort B** students will attend school on **Thursdays & Fridays** (Daily Schedule Attached). There will be **NO** students on campus **Wednesdays** due to deep cleaning of our classrooms by our custodial staff.
4. Bus Transportation will be provided; however, parents will need to be sure to visit our school's webpage at www.gcsnc.com/smith to complete the Bus Transportation Request. Information on student route, times, etc. can be obtained via Here Comes the Bus App that can be downloaded. Details on downloaded by visiting the Bus Transportation Link via www.gcsnc.com website.
5. With a different daily schedule for the new semester, **students will NOT be allowed on campus before 9:30am.** Buses will run much later than last school year, thus buses will begin arriving onto campus between 9:30am and 9:45am. **Car riders, student drivers and student walkers should plan to arrive onto campus between 9:30am and 10am each morning.** **Dismissal time for ALL students will be 4:25pm.**
6. Once students step onto the school bus and/or steps onto campus, **students are required to wear a mask** that covers their nose and mouth at all times (except when eating and or drinking on campus). Upon each student's arrival onto campus, they will have their temperature taken by staff as well as being asked a series of attestation questions (Attestation Form Attached).

7. If a student has been provided a school laptop device, they will be required to bring their laptop device and power cord with them and to have it inside of a bookbag or backpack to prevent any unnecessary damage to their laptop device.

8. Along with their laptop device, all students are encouraged to include the following items with them when they arrive to school each school day:
 - a. Personal Headphones or Earbuds
 - b. Bottle Water or Refillable Plastic Water Bottle w/ Lid
 - c. Personal Hand Sanitizer
 - d. Personal Disinfectant Wipes

9. Each classroom will have student/teacher desk socially distanced with each teacher having additional face masks and plastic gloves available for students if requested. Since we will no longer allow for students to gather together in large groups as before the pandemic, **students will not be permitted to stand and congregate in the open courtyard area, cafeteria and the cafeteria commons area, or in any other area open here on campus.** Once students arrive onto campus, they will immediately go through temperature check and report directly to their 1st Block Class. Students will be served Breakfast and Lunch inside the classroom, and restroom visits will be scheduled throughout the day to allow for restrooms to be properly sanitized after use.

10. We understand that there may still be students either without a laptop device or reliable internet access inside the home. If any of these issues may apply to your child, please do not hesitate to contact Smith High School Front Office at (336) 294-7300.

Respectfully,

Melvin Marshall
Principal

Daily Student Bell Schedule (Starting Jan. 21st)

Cohort A Students (Mondays & Tuesdays on Campus):

		Group A				Group A		
Time	Block	Minutes	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
			Face-to-Face	Face-to-Face	No Students on Campus			
10:00 AM - 11:40 AM	Block 1	25 min. 75 min.	Breakfast in classroom 1st Block	Breakfast in classroom 1st Block				
11:40 AM - 11:50 AM	Transition	10 min.			Online Assignments			
11:50 AM - 1:05 PM	Block 2	75 min.	2nd Block	2nd Block				
1:05 PM - 1:15 PM	Transition	10 min.			Online Teacher Conf.	Remote Learning	Remote Learning	
1:15 PM - 1:45 PM 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM	Block 3	30 min. 75 min.	Lunch in classroom 3rd Block	Lunch in classroom 3rd Block				
3:00 PM - 3:10 PM	Transition	10 min.						
3:10 PM - 4:25 PM	Block 4	75 min.	4th Block	4th Block				
4:25 PM - 4:40 PM	Dismissal	15 min.	Dismissal	Dismissal				

Cohort B Students (Thursdays & Fridays on Campus):

		Group B				Group B		
Block	Minutes	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		
				No Students on Campus	Face-to-Face	Face-to-Face		
10:00 AM - 11:40 AM	Block 1				25 min. 75 min.	Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Breakfast in classroom 1st Block
11:40 AM - 11:50 AM	Transition	10 min.						
11:50 AM - 1:05 PM	Block 2	75 min.		Online Teacher Conf.	2nd Block	2nd Block		
1:05 PM - 1:15 PM	Transition	10 min.						
1:15 PM - 1:45 PM 1:45 PM - 3:00 PM	Block 3	35 min. 75 min.			Lunch in classroom 3rd Block	Lunch in classroom 3rd Block		
3:00 PM - 3:10 PM	Transition	10 min.						
3:10 PM - 4:25 PM	Block 4	75 min.			4th Block	4th Block		
4:25 PM - 4:40 PM	Dismissal	15 min.	Dismissal	Dismissal	Dismissal	Dismissal		



GCS ATTESTATION HEALTH SYMPTOM SCREENING

Child's First Name: _____ **Child's Last Name:** _____

Parent/Guardian First Name: _____ **Parent/Guardian Last Name:** _____

1. Has your child had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) in the last 14 days with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, or has any health department or health care provider been in contact with you and advised you to quarantine?

- Yes The child should not be at school. The child can return 14 days after the last time he or she had close contact with someone with COVID-19, or as listed below.
- No The child can be at school if the child is not experiencing symptoms.

2. Does your child have any of these symptoms?

- Fever
- Chills
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New cough
- New loss of taste or smell

If a child has any symptoms, they should stay home, stay away from other people and you should call the child's health care provider.

3. Since they were last at school has your child been diagnosed with COVID-19?

- Yes
- No

If a child is diagnosed with COVID-19 based on a test, their symptoms, or does not get a COVID-19 test, but has had symptoms, they should not be at school and should stay at home until they meet the criteria below.

A child can return to school when a family member can ensure that they can answer YES to ALL three questions:

- Has it been at least 10 days since the child first had symptoms?
- Has it been at least 24 hours since the child had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine)?
- Has there been symptom improvement, including cough and shortness of breath?

If a child has had a negative COVID-19 test, they can return to school once there is no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines and they have felt well for 24 hours.

If a child has been diagnosed with COVID-19 but does not have symptoms, they should remain out of school until 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test, assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test.

If a child has been determined to have been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, they should remain out of school for 14 days since the last known contact, unless they test positive. In which case, criteria above would apply. They must complete the full 14 days of quarantine even if they test negative.