



GREATER NEW BEDFORD REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

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Preparation • Passion • Perseverance

November 2, 2020

Good afternoon GNBVT families,

We hope that this newsletter finds you all well. We appreciate the commitment to GNBVT by families, students, teachers and administrators.

Students on Campus THIS Week (November 2nd - November 6th)

Cycle 6 Continues through November 5th; Cycle 7 Begins November 6th

All Division 1 Freshmen students report for their CVTE exploratory program Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (November 2nd, November 3rd, November 4th, and November 5th).

All Division 2 Freshmen students report for their CVTE exploratory program Friday (November 6th).

All Division 1 Sophomore, Juniors, and Seniors:

GREEN Cohort students will have their in-person CVTE instruction Monday (November 2nd) while **GOLD** Cohort students will have their remote CVTE assignments. **GOLD** Cohort students report for their in-person CVTE instruction Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (November 3rd, November 4th, and November 5th) while **GREEN** Cohort students complete their remote CVTE assignments. This concludes cycle 6.

All academics will continue to be conducted remotely for all students/grade levels.

Students on Campus NEXT Week (November 9th - November 13th)

Cycle 7 Continues throughout the week - please note there is NO school on Wednesday, November 11th in observance of Veteran's Day

All Division 2 Freshmen students report for their CVTE exploratory program this week.

All Division 2 Sophomore, Juniors, and Seniors:

GREEN Cohort students will have their in-person CVTE instruction Monday and Tuesday (November 9th and November 10th) while **GOLD** Cohort students will have their remote CVTE assignments. **GOLD** Cohort students report for their in-person CVTE instruction Thursday and Friday (November 12th and November 13th) while **GREEN** Cohort students complete their remote CVTE assignments.

All academics will continue to be conducted remotely for all students/grade levels.

Transition to Phase 1B

Final preparations are being completed in the next week for senior students to return to school full time for their CVTE learning days. **This remains, of course, reviewable as science/health data related to the pandemic continues to evolve.** For purposes of our reopening plan, this will be referred to as our Phase 1B plan.

Beginning, **Tuesday November 17, 2020 (Cycle 8 Day 1)** senior students in both the **GREEN** and **GOLD** cohorts will report to their CVTE shops consistent with our Phase 1B plan released through the Principals letters in the past few weeks. All social distancing protocols that have been established and in place this school year will be strictly adhered to. If additional changes are made, families will be notified.

MCAS for the Class of 2022 (Grade 11)

MCAS assessments in ELA and Math will be administered to all juniors (Class of 2022) during the testing window established by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Educations (January 14-February 5). GNBVT is currently planning for these assessments to be administered in a socially distant, safe manner. **Achieving a passing score (meeting the competency determination established by DESE) on the MCAS assessments is a statewide graduation requirement.**

Academic support preparation sessions will be offered to students beginning in November to prepare for the ELA and Math MCAS tests planned January 14th - February 5th. These sessions will begin on Monday, November 9th.

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to have their students participate in these sessions to ensure they meet the DESE competency determination.

Breakfast/Lunch

Starting November 2nd, all students are eligible to participate in the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) USDA meals program that is available until June 30th or until the funding is not available. This means all students will receive (at no cost) 1 full component breakfast and 1 full component lunch each day. Students in the building will continue to have their lunch shifts as normal. Remote students will now have the opportunity to order meals for the days they are learning remotely with 2 different pick up days (Tuesdays and Thursdays both 9:00 a.m. -10: 00 a.m.) **Links for the remote ordering will be on the school website.**

If at any time the district has to switch back to a paid program, families that feel they are eligible for either free or reduced breakfast and lunch pricing can visit <http://www.myschoolapps.com> to complete an application. If you already have been notified of your status from direct certification, an application does not need to be completed.

For cash free transactions, families can establish an account with your student's ID number to put money on their account to scan their ID at checkout by using www.myschoolbucks.com.

Trimester 1 Progress Reports

Progress reports were posted to the Aspen portal last Wednesday, October 28, 2020. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to review student grades and communicate directly with teachers and guidance counselors with any concerns they may have. **The First Trimester closes on December 15th and Report Cards will be posted to the Aspen Portal on December 23rd.**

Special Services

There will be a Special Education Parent Advisory Council meeting on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Please use the following link to view the invitation and meeting link.
<https://www.gnbvt.edu/parents-students/special-services/gnbvt-sepac/>

Open House 2020

Information regarding Open House 2020, scheduled for Sunday, November 22nd, will be released during the week of November 9th (next week).

Important Reminders from Previous Newsletters:

Remote Learning and Student Expectations

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

Students are reminded that their camera and microphone (unless directed otherwise by the instructor) must be on during remote sessions, complete all assignments, check emails from teachers for attendance requirements during support sessions, and request any support they need to meet with success in all of their classes. Students are expected to be present for the entire class periods. **During the asynchronous (independent learning time), students should be completing all assignments in preparation for the next scheduled, synchronous (live) class time. It is important that all students are prepared for class periods and by completing these assignments it will provide teachers with the information they need to ensure positive student learning outcomes.**

We need to remind students given circumstances that have already appeared in other districts, that we will strictly prohibit screenshots, pictures and/or any audio or video recording without prior consent of the teachers and classmates. It is illegal in Massachusetts to record another person through any medium without their consent. Recordings, as well as any other form of online bullying or harassment will be handled as a discipline matter and may result in suspension, expulsion and could include police involvement.

Students are reminded of the [District Expectations SY 2020-2021](#), and are thanked for their efforts during the first month of school.

Health and Safety

Stop the Spread!

The Commonwealth is launching a strategic testing program across Massachusetts for asymptomatic individuals in an effort to stop the spread of COVID-19. The Commonwealth urges residents in New Bedford and other high risk communities to get tested. Testing is FREE and available at the following New Bedford locations (more information can be found online at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/stop-the-spread> :

- Greater New Bedford Community Health Center: 508-742-3807
- Seven Hills Behavioral Health Van will be testing at various locations across the city (see website above for specific days/times.
- Sister Rose's House: 508-996-0546

Please stay home if you are sick!

We are asking our students to stay home if they are ill. This will help to minimize the incident rates of the common cold, flu and COVID-19. **If your student is experiencing any of the following, please keep them home and inform the GNBVT Nurses Office at Ext. 204 or 205:**

- Fever 100 and over
- Chills/shaking chills
- Headache when in combination w/other symptoms
- Cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)
- Muscle aches or body aches
- Difficulty breathing
- Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- New loss of smell or taste
- Fatigue when in combination w/other symptoms
- Sore throat
- Nasal congestion/runny nose (not due to other known causes/allergies) when in combination w/other symptoms

If your child is exhibiting any of the above symptoms please keep your child home and call your physician. You will be required to provide medical documentation upon the return to school.

Your student may return to school when the following are true:

- Your medical provider has determined a different illness than COVID 19 and cleared student to return (medical note must be provided to school), OR
- Your student has negative test results for COVID 19, no symptoms **AND** a note from their medical provider

PLEASE NOTE: If you should be notified that you are COVID positive or have been a close contact of a COVID positive individual, please contact your physician and notify the school nurse promptly. Our School Nurses will work with you to determine dates if it is appropriate for a student to return to school.

Student Travel to High Risk States: All students and families are reminded that travel outside of Massachusetts to states deemed “High Risk” by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires a 14-day quarantine or negative COVID-19 test that was administered up to 72-hours prior to your arrival to Massachusetts. Proof of COVID-19 test results must be provided to the school’s Attendance Office.

Bus Routes

The capacity of students riding the bus to school has been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. **The bus routes are posted to the school website.**

We thank you for your continued support and focus on supporting all Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech students during this challenging time!

Sincerely,



Michael P. Watson
Academic Principal



Robert J. Watt
CVTE Principal

Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School is committed to ensuring equal opportunities for all students. The school does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, homelessness, immigration status or veteran status in its education programs and activities, including admission to or employment in such programs or activities.

James L. O'Brien
Superintendent-Director

Michael P. Watson
Principal

Robert J. Watt
Principal

Pamela Stuart
School Business Administrator

Proudly Serving the Towns of Dartmouth and Fairhaven and the City of New Bedford