



Brett Gallini - Executive Director
bgallini@greatoakscharter.org

Timberly Wilson - Principal
twilson@greatoakscharter.org

Chandel Smith - Director of Operations
Csmith1@greatoakscharter.org

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GO-NYC plans to open with a hybrid A/B schedule (one day in-person, one day remote instruction) with ability to go 100% remote pending NY Governor's Order in Early August

GO-NYC families,

We are excited to launch the 2020-2021 school year at GO-NYC despite the number of challenges faced by all New Yorkers due to COVID-19. Our school leadership team has spent the summer working closely with the New York State Education Department (NYSED) to design a reopen plan that makes sense for all families. As we designed our plan, we prioritized the following factors:

- **Health and Safety:** *The school must provide a safe and healthy environment for students and we must follow school reopen guidelines, which are outlined by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and New York State.*
- **Student learning:** *Students need to be in school as much as possible and learning must continue.*
- **Working Families:** *Many families rely on school and must return to work in order to support their families.*

With these factors in mind, **GO-NYC will open for in-person instruction using a hybrid schedule. This means that students will be assigned to an A or B schedule and come to school every other day. When one group of students is learning at school, the other group will learn from home. We will alternate each day.**

A sample schedule is below:

A/B Schedule Model					
WEEK 1	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
School	A	B	A	B	A
Home	B	A	B	A	B
WEEK 2	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
School	B	A	B	A	B
Home	A	B	A	B	A

All GO-NYC students will be divided into two groups (A/B). Families will be notified in mid-August as to which group their child is in, group A or B.





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This schedule allows us to bring your child to school more than other schools, provide in-person instruction and ensure that social distancing takes place by having only half of our students in school each day.

GO-NYC is a small school and our total student population is less than 300. This means that no more than 150 students will be on campus each day.

How is GO-NYC planning to keep my child safe while at school?

Here are some of the highlights of what we are doing to keep our students safe:

- Designated handwashing stations will be created, and all students will be encouraged to wash their hands multiple times per day.
- Maintenance and service of our HVAC systems will be conducted with frequent air filter changes.
- Sanitizing hand wipes and hand sanitizer will be provided for all students and work spaces.
- Masks will be provided for all staff and scholars. Masks will be expected to be worn by all staff and students when they are within 6' of another person.
- Disinfectant sprays and towels will be provided in each classroom.
- Door props will be purchased so all classroom doors can remain open as much as possible to allow for optimal airflow and less touching of doorknobs.
- Thermometers will be available to take temperatures of students.
- Protocols will be developed for students who may feel ill, need to be sent home or test positive. We will work closely with the city on contact tracing should it be necessary.
- Meals will be “grab and go” and students will eat in their classrooms.

School Nurse

- GO-NYC will ensure that there is a trained health professional on campus at all times.

Building Sanitizing and Cleaning

- A new facilities company has been hired to provide custodial services for our school.
- In addition to our daytime custodians, two additional custodians have been added to the team and will work from 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm each night to fully disinfect all classrooms, hallways, bathrooms and common spaces.
- We will purchase an electrostatic sprayer/fogger to disinfect the building.





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What is the updated school schedule?

- Monday, August 24th is 6th grade orientation
- Tuesday, August 25th is 7th grade orientation.
- Wednesday, August 26th is 8th grade orientation.

The first day of instruction will be Thursday, August 27th for students on a “A” schedule.

The first day of instruction will be Friday, August 28th for students on a “B” schedule.

(Each student will be assigned to an A or B schedule and you will be notified before orientation).

- By grade, scholars will be split into two groups: A and B. When group A is in session, group B is working from home.
- Scholars in our self-contained special education class will return full-time and follow a normal schedule without interruption. These scholars will attend school every day.
- We will utilize technology to support students who are not physically on campus. English Language Arts (ELA) and Math are prioritized subject areas and when students are not at school, they will join their ELA and Math classes via live stream so that every student receives direct instruction in ELA and Math every day.
- Social Studies, Science and specials classes take place in person when on campus. On “home” days, students will utilize the Google suite (i.e. Google Classroom, Google Slides, etc.) to engage in activities that extend & refine what they’ve learned during the previous day’s in-person instruction.

Our goal is to open using this hybrid model. However, we will follow the orders of the Governor of the State of New York and if he orders schools to open fully remote, we will do so. Our hybrid plan is strong but will support 100% remote instruction and we are planning for both. Currently, the Governor has said he will make an initial decision in early August. That said, the COVID crisis means we will need to be ready for potential changes throughout the year.





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While we do think it's best to bring students to school using this schedule, we respect a family's right to make the best choice for their family and therefore we are offering a 100% remote option if you do not feel safe sending your child to school every other day, with social distancing and safety protocols in place.

If you wish to discuss a 100% remote option, please email our school principal, Ms. Timberly Wilson at twilson@greatoakscharter.org.

Once again, GO-NYC is a public charter school and we follow the guidelines and orders of the Governor of the State of New York. In August, if Governor Cuomo orders GO-NYC to open 100% remote, we are prepared to do this.

Regardless of the challenges that lie ahead, we are prepared to provide your child with the education that they need and deserve.

We will be in touch with more information within the upcoming weeks.

Best,

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