



GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY

SACATON, AZ 85147

TRIBAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Education Administration

Post Office Box 97

Sacaton, Az 85147

Phone: (520) 562-3662

Fax: (520) 562-2924

Memorandum

TO: Terrance B. Evans, Chairman, & Members of the Education Standing Committee
Devin Redbird, Chairman, & Members of the Health and Social Standing Committee
Gila River Indian Community

FROM: Isaac Salcido, Director
Tribal Education Department

DATE: July 14, 2022

SUBJECT: **Blackwater Community School Reopening Plans in accordance with Guidance Provided by the COVID-19 Task Force and Unified Command**

The Tribal Education Department submits the following item to the members of Education Standing Committee and the Health and Social Standing Committee for the Special Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

Submission Type:
New Business

Submission Title:
Blackwater Community School Reopening Plans in accordance with Guidance Provided by the COVID-19 Task Force and Unified Command

Summary and Highlights:
Blackwater Community School has submitted their 2022-2023 Academic Year School Reopening Plan in accordance with Guidance provided by the COVID-19 Task Force and Unified Command. Projected start date is July 25, 2022.

The School Re-opening Plan have been reviewed by the Tribal Education Department and the Tribal Health Department. In this submittal you will find the following:

Attachment I: School Re-opening Plan
Attachment II: Tribal Education Department Review Document
Attachment III: Tribal Health Department Review Document

Presenters for this meeting include:

Jagdish Sharma, Blackwater Community School Principal – Email: jagdish.sharma@bwcs.k12.az.us

Gwendolyn Paul, School Board President – Email: gwendolynpaul1234@gmail.com

Isaac Salcido, Tribal Education Department Director – Email: Isaac.Salcido@gric.nsn.us

Candalerian Preston, Tribal Health Department Director – Email: Candalerian.Preston.THD@gric.nsn.us

Committee Action Requested:

Committee Discretion

ATTACHMENT I:

BLACKWATER COMMUNITY SCHOOL SY 2022-2023 RE-OPENING PLAN

**Blackwater Community School
Akimel O’Otham Pee Posh Charter School Inc.
SY 2022-2023 Re-Opening Plan**



“Quality Education Begins Here”

Students return to in-person learning on July 25, 2022

Purpose

Our opening plan is guided by keeping in mind the health, safety, and welfare of each member of our community school, as well as their family members.

This revision in the re-opening plan reflects the requirements as written utilizing the recommendations from GRHC, the COVID-19 Taskforce Unified Command has developed this plan and guidance for GRIC schools:

School opening will abide by the guidance and recommendations from the Gila River Indian Community COVID-19 Safety Guidelines. This opening plan will continue to be in effect during extended learning sessions such as summer school and intersessions unless an amendment is required from the Tribal Government.

Current federal, state, and tribal government guidance may change, and it is critical to prepare for both in-person and distance learning. We fully expect plans to evolve and adapt over time as further guidance becomes available. All in-school hygiene protocols as established by higher authorities will be implemented to the extent possible as long as the risk of COVID-19 is present. All employees will be trained on best practices for maintaining and promoting the following main safety guidelines at all times:

- (i) Social distancing to the extent possible
- (ii) Frequent handwashing
- (iii) All staff and students on-site wear a mask while indoors and/or according to the current GRIC Executive Order.
- (iv) Daily deep cleaning
- (v) Hand sanitizer available

All school employees and students will get bi-weekly covid-19 testing provided by the Gila River Community. **This practice will continue until otherwise announced.**

SEL Support

Some students may have experienced trauma over the previous year, and our staff and community partners will be ready to support those learners. The daily schedule will include additional time built in for Social Emotional Learning, and relationship building among students and their teacher. Counselors will be available at all times for crisis intervention as well as continued individual and small group counseling including family support as needed.

Academic Expectations

We will continue to maintain high expectations for academic growth and competency development. In order to measure academic progress, DIBELS, NWEA, TSG and other appropriate assessments will be administered throughout the school year. Daily schedules will allow for additional time to re-teach the standards in a small group setting to account for any additional regression in the student's learning.

The following key areas must be adhered to by BWCS School Administrators, GRHC School Health School Nurses and all parties involved for the health and safety of students and staff.

1. Regardless of vaccination status, all students in Kindergarten to 5th grade will be eligible to attend in-person. All Preschool students under the age of 5 years will remain in virtual learning until further notice.
2. Virtual or remote learning is available to students whose parents choose to do so.

3. All staff on-site are required to remain “Up to Date” with their COVID-19 vaccination status and continue to remain Up to Date with their COVID-19 vaccinations. A person is Up to Date with their COVID-19 vaccinations if they have received all recommended doses when eligible.
4. All staff and students on-site must wear a mask while indoors and/or according to the current GRHC Executive Order. Staff and students should wear a surgical mask at a minimum.
5. Surveillance testing will be conducted according to the Community’s COVID-19 Phase Approach which is based on COVID-19 transmission rates in the Community provided by the Tribal Health Department.
 - a. **Phase III –Mandatory COVID-19 Surveillance Testing Not Required.**
 - i. Individuals required to test immediately with their healthcare provider if experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.
 - b. **Phase II - Mandatory COVID-19 Surveillance Testing every 2 weeks for those unvaccinated and Not Up to Date with their COVID-19 vaccinations.**
 - i. Student’s complete surveillance testing with GRHC or their healthcare provider.
 - ii. Staff residing within the Community boundaries test with GRHC or their healthcare provider.
 - iii. Staff not residing within the Community boundaries test with their healthcare provider.
 - c. **Phase I - Mandatory COVID-19 Surveillance Testing continues every 2 weeks for all individuals.**
 - i. Student’s complete surveillance testing with GRHC or their healthcare provider.
 - ii. Staff residing within the Community boundaries test with GRHC or their healthcare provider.
 - iii. Staff not residing within the Community boundaries test with their healthcare provider.
6. Symptomatic testing will be conducted/performed for any student or staff experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.

Students

- a. If student is on-site, the GRHC School Health Nurses will triage the student and provide guidance to Parent/Guardian on testing requirement and when student can return to in-person learning.
 - i. Student may return to school after he/she receives a COVID-19 negative test result from a licensed healthcare entity and has been symptom-free for at least 24 hours; or he/she has been cleared to return to in-person learning by their health care provider.
 - ii. GRHC School Health Nurse(s) will communicate any guidance and requirements provided to the student’s Parent/Guardian(s) to the School Administrators.
- b. If Parent/Guardian informs school their child has COVID-19 symptoms prior to being on-site, the school will provide information to the GRHC School Health Nurse(s). The GRHC School Health Nurse will provide guidance to Parent/Guardian on testing requirement and when student can return to in-person learning.
 - i. Student may return to school after he/she receives a COVID-19 negative test result from a licensed healthcare entity and has been symptom-free for at least 24 hours; or he/she has been cleared to return to in-person learning by their health care provider.
 - ii. GRHC School Health Nurse(s) will communicate any guidance and requirements provided to the student’s Parent/Guardian(s) and to the School Administrators.
 - iii. If the student has not been cleared by their health care provider or obtained a negative COVID-19 test result from a licensed healthcare facility, he/she must remain home until one of the requirements is met. It is the Parent/Guardian responsibility to update the School Administration on their status and obtain requirement from their healthcare provider.

Staff

- a. If staff member is on-site, the staff member will be sent home and he/she must remain home and test immediately with a licensed healthcare provider.
 - i. Staff may return to work after he/she receives a COVID-19 negative test result from a licensed healthcare entity and has been symptom-free for at least 24 hours; or he/she has been cleared to return to work by their health care provider.
 - b. If staff member is not on-site, he/she must remain home and test immediately with a licensed healthcare provider.
 - i. Staff may return to work after he/she receives a COVID-19 negative test result from a licensed healthcare entity and has been symptom-free for at least 24 hours; or he/she has been cleared to return to work by their health care provider.
 - c. If the staff has not been cleared by their health care provider or obtained a negative COVID-19 test result from a licensed healthcare facility, he/she must remain home until one of the requirements is met. It is the staff member's responsibility to update the School Administration on their status and obtain requirement from their healthcare provider.
7. Testing will be performed for an exposure and possible outbreak on a school campus.
- a. In the event of an outbreak at the school, an investigation will be conducted by the Tribal Health Department.
 - i. The Health Department will require COVID-19 testing with GRHC for affected staff and students in accordance with the GRIC Communicable Disease Ordinance GR-14-09, GRIC Code Title 17. Tribal Health strongly encourages all staff and Parents/Guardians of students to cooperate with the Department and follow the directions of their health care providers in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - b. In the event of an exposure, staff and students should follow the quarantine guidance of their healthcare provider.
 - i. For students, GRHC School Health Nurses will provide guidance to Parent/Guardian(s) on quarantine and/or testing requirement(s) and when student can return to in-person learning.
 1. GRHC School Health Nurse(s) will communicate any guidance and requirements to the student's Parent/Guardian(s) and to the School Administrators.
 - ii. Staff must follow the testing, quarantine requirement and when they may return to on-site from their health care provider. Staff member must provide a doctor's note to School Administration if he/she is placed on quarantine which identifies when he/she may return to work/on-site.
 - c. It is the Parent/Guardian or staff member's responsibility to update the School Administration on their status.
8. **All staff/students attending classes in-person must provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken from a licensed health care provider taken no more than five (5) days before the staff's/student's first day of in-person learning.**
- a. The COVID-19 Taskforce Unified Command, Tribal Health Department and Tribal Education Department will work with GRHC and Leadership to meet testing requirement.
 - b. The COVID-19 Taskforce Unified Command will provide notification to School Administrators on how testing requirement will be met.
9. **For students or staff that test positive for COVID-19** or have a high clinical suspicion of COVID-19 infection, subsequent follow-up care thru GRHC or other healthcare provider be arranged as soon as possible.

Students

- a. GRHC School Health Nurses will triage student displaying symptoms of COVID-19 and provide guidance to Parent/Guardian on appropriate steps for their child and when their child can return to in-person learning.

- i. The GRHC School Health Nurse(s) will work with the GRHC COVID-19 Hotline to provide guidance to Parents/Guardians.
- ii. GRHC School Health Nurse(s) will communicate any guidance and requirements provided to the student's Parent/Guardian(s) and School Administrators.

Staff

- a. Staff must follow the testing, quarantine requirement and when they may return to on-site from their health care provider. Staff member must provide a doctor's note to School Administration if he/she is placed on quarantine which identifies when he/she may return to work/on-site.
 - b. If the student or staff has not been cleared by their health care provider or obtained a negative COVID-19 test result from a licensed healthcare facility, they must remain home until one of the requirements is met. It is the Parent/Guardian or staff member's responsibility to update the School Administration on their status and obtain requirement from their healthcare provider.
10. BWCS Administrators must work with the GRHC School Health Nurses to develop a list of all student COVID-19 vaccination status of each student. BWCS School Administrators must develop a list of all staff COVID-19 vaccination status. Both lists are to be maintained and updated consistently.
11. BWCS and GRHC School Health Nurses must work cohesively, collaboratively and communicate on a daily basis the COVID-19 status of the students, COVID-19 positive cases, close contacts placed on quarantine, and any other issues/concerns pertaining to the health status of students. BWCS' Human Resources office will develop and maintain school employees' Covid-19 vaccination status, positive test results, quarantine status, return to work day and close contacts. BWCS' Attendance Secretary's office will develop and maintain school students' Covid-19 vaccination status, positive test results, quarantine status, return to work day and close contacts.

Additional BWCS guidelines provided:

All students and staff have been provided with a digital device.

Parent Educators/Home Visitors

- Training on best practices for hygiene
- Hand sanitizer available
- Disposable masks provided to each family
- Digital devices provided to each family
- Virtual visits available

Detailed plans for on-site learning:

Campus:

- New facility with new HVAC system that exchanges interior air every 34 minutes.
- Each classroom and office are equipped with air purifier units with HEPA filters
- Rooms and offices will be fogged every morning prior to employees or student entrance
- Frequently used surfaces (desks, door handles, restrooms, sinks) will be sanitized the night before and throughout the day
- All students and staff will be expected to wear a mask IN DOORS as appropriate while on campus or on the bus
- 3 feet social distance will be maintained to the extent possible
- Hand sanitizing stations located throughout the campus

Visitors: No visitors will be allowed to go into the classrooms. Parents that are checking in to the front office will be required to fill out the COVID-19 questionnaire and have their temperature taken and recorded.

Arrival at School:

- Hand sanitizer will be available to all students & staff
- Prior to eating students will wash hands
- Surfaces will be disinfected after breakfast
- Students will re-wash hands after eating

During School:

- Students will remain with their grade level cohorts
- Student desks will face forward, individual shields provided
- Frequently used surfaces will be sanitized throughout the day
- Before designated grade level lunch time, students will wash their hands in assigned sinks

During Lunch:

- Hands will be sanitized before lunch
- Students will get a premade tray and beverage of their choice
- Students will sit in their assigned seats
- Individual shields provided and placed 3 feet in distance when possible
- Students discard their trays
- Cafeteria tables and serving surfaces will be sanitized in between grade level cohorts
- Schools will continue to provide meals for children attending virtual classes.

Recess

- Designated areas by grade level cohort
- Hand sanitizer will be provided before re-entering the classroom

Dismissal

- Students will board buses and sit in assigned seats

After School Duties

- Teachers/staff will sanitize frequently touched surfaces and door handles
- Cleaning crew will clean and sanitize buildings and common areas

Appendix

Quarantine Instructions for Close Contacts

Close Contact: Someone who was less than 6 feet away from an infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes).

Yes		No
Students		
1. Are you 5 to 17 years old and fully vaccinated? You are fully vaccinated 14 days after you received a 1st and 2nd dose of a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.	Quarantine is <u>not</u> required Additional measures should be followed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test on day 5. But test immediately if symptoms develop. • If positive test result, follow isolation timeframe for positive case. 	Quarantine required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay home and quarantine. • Virtual learning in effect • Test on day 5. But test immediately if symptoms develop. • If negative test result and symptom-free for 24 hours and no one in home under quarantine, individual may end quarantine and return to school. • If positive test result, follow isolation timeframe for positive case.
Employees and FACE Adult Students		
2. Are you 18 years or older and fully vaccinated? You are fully vaccinated 14 days after you received a 1st and 2nd dose of a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.	Quarantine is <u>not</u> required Additional measures should be followed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test on day 5. But test immediately if symptoms develop. • If positive test result, follow isolation timeframe for positive case. 	Quarantine required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay home and quarantine. • Virtual learning for FACE students • Test on day 5. But test immediately if symptoms develop. • If negative test result and symptom-free for 24 hours and no one in home under quarantine, individual may end quarantine and return to work or daily activity. • If positive test result, follow isolation timeframe for positive case.
3. Have you tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days?	Quarantine is not required Additional measures should be followed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you are having symptoms you should isolate until you are symptom-free for 24 hours. 	Quarantine is required. Follow isolation timeframe provided by your healthcare provider.

Quarantine for Close Contacts that live in the home of a positive case

If the close contact lives in the same home of the positive case, regardless of vaccination status, quarantine is required. Close contacts that live in the home of the positive case must follow the isolation timeframe for the positive case.

Isolation Guidelines

Isolation is used to separate people with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 from those without COVID-19.

Table 3. Isolation Timeframes for Positive Cases

Isolation for positive cases and quarantine for the household will be 10 days from the test date. All household members (except positive case) will need to test immediately.

- If their healthcare provider provides an isolation timeframe that is less than 10 days, the patients will be instructed to contact their healthcare provider for a return to work document.

Questions and Answers:

1) Do the students/staff have to wear masks during outside activities such as recess, PE time etc.

No, they do not.

2) If a staff member/student that is vaccinated gets a doctor's note allowing them to return to school after five days of quarantine is that allowed.

Staff must follow the testing, quarantine requirement and when they may return to on-site from their health care provider. Staff member must provide a doctor's note to School Administration if he/she is placed on quarantine which identifies when he/she may return to work/on-site.

If the student or staff has not been cleared by their health care provider or obtained a negative COVID-19 test result from a licensed healthcare facility, they must remain home until one of the requirements is met. It is the Parent/Guardian or staff member's responsibility to update the School Administration on their status and obtain requirement from their healthcare provider.

ATTACHMENT II:

TRIBAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT REVIEW

**Gila River Indian Community
Tribal Education Department Review**

Blackwater Community School

		In Compliance		Comments:
		Yes	NO	
1	That "in-person" education be extended to all students in K-8 who attend a school located within the Community boundaries, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status.	X		Noted on page 2, #1
2	That a "hybrid" model – allowing for continued virtual attendance – be extended for those families who so desire their child remain at home at this time.	X		Noted on page 2, #2
3	That all adults working on campus of any school located within the Community boundaries be required to remain "Up-to-Date" with their COVID-19 vaccination status, up through receiving a 3rd dose / 1st Booster when eligible. This includes	X		Noted on page 3, #3
4	That a mask requirement (surgical mask) for all those on campus and participating in after-school activities remain enforce in an indoor setting.	X		Noted on page 2, under iii. "Surgical mask" is not included in verbiage.
5	That a continuous testing program for those presenting with symptoms of a viral nature – respiratory symptoms, fever, gastrointestinal symptoms – be available and monitored for possible COVID-19 infection.	X		Noted on page 3, #6
6	Symptomatic testing should be conducted/performed for any student or staff experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. Student/Staff	X		Noted on page 3, #6
7	Testing should be performed for an exposure and possible outbreak on a school campus.	X		Noted on page 4, #7

**Gila River Indian Community
Tribal Education Department Review**

Blackwater Community School

		In Compliance		Comments:
		Yes	NO	
8	All students attending classes in-person must provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken from a licensed health care provider taken no more than five (5) days before the student's first day of in-person learning.	X		Noted on page 3, #6.,a,i
9	For students or staff that test positive for COVID-19 or have a high clinical suspicion of COVID-19 infection, subsequent follow up care thru GRHC or other healthcare provider be arranged as soon as possible.	X		Noted on page 4, #9
10	GRIC School Administrators must work with the GRHC School Health Nurses to develop a list of all student COVID-19 vaccination status of each student. GRIC School Administrators must develop a list of all staff COVID-19 vaccination status.	X		Noted on page 5, #10
11	GRIC Schools and GRHC School Health Nurses must work cohesively, collaboratively and communicate on a daily basis the COVID-19 status of the students, COVID-19 positive cases, close contacts placed on quarantine, and any other	X		Noted on page 5, #11
12	GRIC Schools will update their School Re-opening Plans to include these requirements. GRIC Schools and GRHC School Health Nurses will adhere to Tribal Health Department COVID-19 Guidance and Contact Tracing procedures.		X	No included. There is information on Quarantine Instructions for Close Contact, but does not adhere to the Tribal Health Department COVID-19 Guidance and Contract Tracing. Please see attachment, page #16.


ATTACHMENT III:

TRIBAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT REVIEW



Memorandum

TO: Tribal Education Department

FROM: Candalerian Preston, Director 
Tribal Health Department

DATE: July 13, 2022

RE: Review of GRIC Schools COVID Plan – Academic Year 2022-2023
Blackwater Community School

The Tribal Health Department reviewed the Blackwater Community School Academic Year 2022-2023 School Plan. The amended school plan must provide the requirements listed below. The plan has been reviewed by the Tribal Health Department. See information below noted by the page number indicated in the plan and any notes or concerns provided by the Tribal Health Department, if any.

The following key areas must be included and adhered to by GRIC School Administrators, GRHC School Health School Nurses and all parties involved for the health and safety of GRIC students and staff.

Requirement		Page(s)	In Compliance
1. Regardless of vaccination status, all students in Kindergarten to 8th grade will be eligible to attend in-person school at any school located within the Community boundaries.		2	Yes
Notes, Concern(s):	Plan states, “Regardless of vaccination status, all students in Kindergarten to 5 th grade will be eligible to attend in-person. All Preschool students under the age of 5 years will remain in virtual learning until further notice”.		
2. GRIC Schools must make virtual or remote learning available to all students whose parents choose online learning for their child or children.		2	Yes
Notes, Concern(s):	Plan states, “Virtual or remote learning is available to students whose parents choose to do so.”		
3. All staff on-site at any school located within the Community boundaries are required to remain “Up to Date” with their COVID-19 vaccination status and continue to remain Up to Date with their COVID-19 vaccinations. A person is Up to Date with their COVID-19 vaccinations if they have received all recommended doses when eligible.		3	Yes
Notes, Concern(s):	Plan states, “All staff on-site are required to remain “Up to Date” with their COVID-19 vaccination status and continue to remain Up to Date with their COVID-19 vaccinations. A person is Up to Date with their COVID-19 vaccinations if they have received all recommended doses when eligible.”		



Requirement		Page(s)	In Compliance
4. All staff and students on-site wear a mask while indoors and/or according to the current GRIC Executive Order. Staff and students should wear a surgical mask at a minimum.		3	Yes
Notes, Concern(s):	Plan states, "All staff and students on-site must wear a mask while indoors and/or according to the current GRIC Executive Order. Staff and students should wear a surgical mask at a minimum."		
5. Surveillance testing should be conducted according to the Community's COVID-19 Phase Approach which is based on COVID-19 transmission rates in the Community provided by the Tribal Health Department.		3	Yes
Notes, Concern(s): Plan states, "Surveillance testing will be conducted according to the Community's COVID-19 Phase Approach which is based on COVID-19 transmission rates in the Community provided by the Tribal Health Department. i. Phase III –Mandatory COVID-19 Surveillance Testing Not Required. i. Individuals required to test immediately with their healthcare provider if experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. ii. Phase II - Mandatory COVID-19 Surveillance Testing every 2 weeks for those unvaccinated and <u>Not</u> Up to Date with their COVID-19 vaccinations. i. Student's complete surveillance testing with GRHC or their healthcare provider. ii. Staff residing within the Community boundaries test with GRHC or their healthcare provider. iii. Staff <u>not</u> residing within the Community boundaries test with their healthcare provider. iii. Phase I - Mandatory COVID-19 Surveillance Testing continues every 2 weeks for all individuals. i. Student's complete surveillance testing with GRHC or their healthcare provider. ii. Staff residing within the Community boundaries test with GRHC or their healthcare provider. iii. Staff <u>not</u> residing within the Community boundaries test with their healthcare provider.			
6. Symptomatic testing should be conducted/performed for any student or staff experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.		3	Yes
Notes, Concern(s):	Requirements included in plan.		
7. Testing should be performed for an exposure and possible outbreak on a school campus.		4	Yes
Notes, Concern(s):	Requirements included in plan.		
8. All students attending classes in-person must provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken from a licensed health care provider taken no more than five (5) days before the student's first day of in-person learning.		4	Yes
Notes, Concern(s):	Plan states, "All staff/students attending classes in-person must provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken from a licensed health care provider taken no more than five (5) days before the staff's/student's first day of in-person learning."		



Requirement		Page(s)	In Compliance
9. For students or staff that test positive for COVID-19 or have a high clinical suspicion of COVID-19 infection, subsequent follow-up care thru GRHC or other healthcare provider be arranged as soon as possible.		4, 5	Yes
Notes, Concern(s):	Requirements included in plan.		
10. GRIC School Administrators must work with the GRHC School Health Nurses to develop a list of all student COVID-19 vaccination status of each student. GRIC School Administrators must develop a list of all staff COVID-19 vaccination status. Both lists are to be maintained and updated consistently.		5	Yes
Notes, Concern(s):	Plan states, “BWCS Administrators must work with the GRHC School Health Nurses to develop a list of all student COVID-19 vaccination status of each student. BWCS School Administrators must develop a list of all staff COVID-19 vaccination status. Both lists are to be maintained and updated consistently. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BWCS’ Human Resources office will develop and maintain school employees’ Covid-19 vaccination status, positive test results, quarantine status, return to work day and close contacts.• BWCS’ Attendance Secretary’s office will develop and maintain school students’ Covid-19 vaccination status, positive test results, quarantine status, return to work day and close contacts.”		
11. GRIC Schools and GRHC School Health Nurses must work cohesively, collaboratively and communicate on a daily basis the COVID-19 status of the students, COVID-19 positive cases, close contacts placed on quarantine, and any other issues/concerns pertaining to the health status of students.		5	Yes
Notes, Concern(s):	Plan states, “BWCS and GRHC School Health Nurses must work cohesively, collaboratively and communicate on a daily basis the COVID-19 status of the students, COVID-19 positive cases, close contacts placed on quarantine, and any other issues/concerns pertaining to the health status of students		
12. GRIC Schools will update their School Re-opening Plans to include these requirements. GRIC Schools and GRHC School Health Nurses will adhere to Tribal Health Department COVID-19 Guidance and Contact Tracing procedures.		7, 8	No
Notes, Concern(s):	Plan identifies previous isolation and quarantine guidance. School needs to align its plan with current Tribal Health COVID-19 Guidance document.		

The Tribal Health Department reviewed the Blackwater Community School Academic Year 2022-2023 School Plan. Tribal Health recommends approval based on the school ensuring their plan is updated to meet requirement 12. Blackwater Community School must adhere to all requirements of the key areas listed in the GRIC Schools COVID Plan – Academic Year 2022-2023.

**Blackwater Community School
Akimel O’Otham Pee Posh Charter School Inc.
SY 2022-2023 Re-Opening Plan**



“Quality Education Begins Here”

Students return to in-person learning on July 25, 2022

Purpose

Our opening plan is guided by keeping in mind the health, safety, and welfare of each member of our community school, as well as their family members.

This revision in the re-opening plan reflects the requirements **as written utilizing the recommendations from GRHC, the COVID-19 Taskforce Unified Command has developed this plan and guidance for GRIC schools:**

School opening will abide by the guidance and recommendations from the Gila River Indian Community COVID-19 Safety Guidelines. This opening plan will continue to be in effect during extended learning sessions such as summer school and intersessions unless an amendment is required from the Tribal Government.

Current federal, state, and tribal government guidance may change, and it is critical to prepare for both in-person and distance learning. We fully expect plans to evolve and adapt over time as further guidance becomes available. All in-school hygiene protocols as established by higher authorities will be implemented to the extent possible as long as the risk of COVID-19 is present. All employees will be trained on best practices for maintaining and promoting the following main safety guidelines at all times:

- (i) Social distancing to the extent possible
- (ii) Frequent handwashing
- (iii) All staff and students on-site wear a mask while indoors and/or according to the current GRIC Executive Order.
- (iv) Daily deep cleaning
- (v) Hand sanitizer available

All school employees and students will get bi-weekly covid-19 testing provided by the Gila River Community. **This practice will continue until otherwise announced.**

SEL Support

Some students may have experienced trauma over the previous year, and our staff and community partners will be ready to support those learners. The daily schedule will include additional time built in for Social Emotional Learning, and relationship building among students and their teacher. Counselors will be available at all times for crisis intervention as well as continued individual and small group counseling including family support as needed.

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We will continue to maintain high expectations for academic growth and competency development. In order to measure academic progress, DIBELS, NWEA, TSG and other appropriate assessments will be administered throughout the school year. Daily schedules will allow for additional time to re-teach the standards in a small group setting to account for any additional regression in the student's learning.

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2. Virtual or remote learning is available to students whose parents choose to do so.

3. All staff on-site are required to remain “Up to Date” with their COVID-19 vaccination status and continue to remain Up to Date with their COVID-19 vaccinations. A person is Up to Date with their COVID-19 vaccinations if they have received all recommended doses when eligible.
4. All staff and students on-site must wear a mask while indoors and/or according to the current GRIC Executive Order. Staff and students should wear a surgical mask at a minimum.
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 - i. Individuals required to test immediately with their healthcare provider if experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.
 - b. **Phase II - Mandatory COVID-19 Surveillance Testing every 2 weeks for those unvaccinated and Not Up to Date with their COVID-19 vaccinations.**
 - i. Student’s complete surveillance testing with GRHC or their healthcare provider.
 - ii. Staff residing within the Community boundaries test with GRHC or their healthcare provider.
 - iii. Staff not residing within the Community boundaries test with their healthcare provider.
 - c. **Phase I - Mandatory COVID-19 Surveillance Testing continues every 2 weeks for all individuals.**
 - i. Student’s complete surveillance testing with GRHC or their healthcare provider.
 - ii. Staff residing within the Community boundaries test with GRHC or their healthcare provider.
 - iii. Staff not residing within the Community boundaries test with their healthcare provider.
6. Symptomatic testing will be conducted/performed for any student or staff experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.

Students

- a. If student is on-site, the GRHC School Health Nurses will triage the student and provide guidance to Parent/Guardian on testing requirement and when student can return to in-person learning.
 - i. Student may return to school after he/she receives a COVID-19 negative test result from a licensed healthcare entity and has been symptom-free for at least 24 hours; or he/she has been cleared to return to in-person learning by their health care provider.
 - ii. GRHC School Health Nurse(s) will communicate any guidance and requirements provided to the student’s Parent/Guardian(s) to the School Administrators.
- b. If Parent/Guardian informs school their child has COVID-19 symptoms prior to being on-site, the school will provide information to the GRHC School Health Nurse(s). The GRHC School Health Nurse will provide guidance to Parent/Guardian on testing requirement and when student can return to in-person learning.
 - i. Student may return to school after he/she receives a COVID-19 negative test result from a licensed healthcare entity and has been symptom-free for at least 24 hours; or he/she has been cleared to return to in-person learning by their health care provider.
 - ii. GRHC School Health Nurse(s) will communicate any guidance and requirements provided to the student’s Parent/Guardian(s) and to the School Administrators.
 - iii. If the student has not been cleared by their health care provider or obtained a negative COVID-19 test result from a licensed healthcare facility, he/she must remain home until one of the requirements is met. It is the Parent/Guardian responsibility to update the School Administration on their status and obtain requirement from their healthcare provider.

Staff

- a. If staff member is on-site, the staff member will be sent home and he/she must remain home and test immediately with a licensed healthcare provider.
 - i. Staff may return to work after he/she receives a COVID-19 negative test result from a licensed healthcare entity and has been symptom-free for at least 24 hours; or he/she has been cleared to return to work by their health care provider.
 - b. If staff member is not on-site, he/she must remain home and test immediately with a licensed healthcare provider.
 - i. Staff may return to work after he/she receives a COVID-19 negative test result from a licensed healthcare entity and has been symptom-free for at least 24 hours; or he/she has been cleared to return to work by their health care provider.
 - c. If the staff has not been cleared by their health care provider or obtained a negative COVID-19 test result from a licensed healthcare facility, he/she must remain home until one of the requirements is met. It is the staff member's responsibility to update the School Administration on their status and obtain requirement from their healthcare provider.
7. Testing will be performed for an exposure and possible outbreak on a school campus.
- a. In the event of an outbreak at the school, an investigation will be conducted by the Tribal Health Department.
 - i. The Health Department will require COVID-19 testing with GRHC for affected staff and students in accordance with the GRIC Communicable Disease Ordinance GR-14-09, GRIC Code Title 17. Tribal Health strongly encourages all staff and Parents/Guardians of students to cooperate with the Department and follow the directions of their health care providers in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - b. In the event of an exposure, staff and students should follow the quarantine guidance of their healthcare provider.
 - i. For students, GRHC School Health Nurses will provide guidance to Parent/Guardian(s) on quarantine and/or testing requirement(s) and when student can return to in-person learning.
 1. GRHC School Health Nurse(s) will communicate any guidance and requirements to the student's Parent/Guardian(s) and to the School Administrators.
 - ii. Staff must follow the testing, quarantine requirement and when they may return to on-site from their health care provider. Staff member must provide a doctor's note to School Administration if he/she is placed on quarantine which identifies when he/she may return to work/on-site.
 - c. It is the Parent/Guardian or staff member's responsibility to update the School Administration on their status.
8. **All staff/students attending classes in-person must provide a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken from a licensed health care provider taken no more than five (5) days before the staff's/student's first day of in-person learning.**
- a. The COVID-19 Taskforce Unified Command, Tribal Health Department and Tribal Education Department will work with GRHC and Leadership to meet testing requirement.
 - b. The COVID-19 Taskforce Unified Command will provide notification to School Administrators on how testing requirement will be met.
9. **For students or staff that test positive for COVID-19** or have a high clinical suspicion of COVID-19 infection, subsequent follow-up care thru GRHC or other healthcare provider be arranged as soon as possible.

Students

- a. GRHC School Health Nurses will triage student displaying symptoms of COVID-19 and provide guidance to Parent/Guardian on appropriate steps for their child and when their child can return to in-person learning.

- i. The GRHC School Health Nurse(s) will work with the GRHC COVID-19 Hotline to provide guidance to Parents/Guardians.
- ii. GRHC School Health Nurse(s) will communicate any guidance and requirements provided to the student's Parent/Guardian(s) and School Administrators.

Staff

- a. Staff must follow the testing, quarantine requirement and when they may return to on-site from their health care provider. Staff member must provide a doctor's note to School Administration if he/she is placed on quarantine which identifies when he/she may return to work/on-site.
 - b. If the student or staff has not been cleared by their health care provider or obtained a negative COVID-19 test result from a licensed healthcare facility, they must remain home until one of the requirements is met. It is the Parent/Guardian or staff member's responsibility to update the School Administration on their status and obtain requirement from their healthcare provider.
10. BWCS Administrators must work with the GRHC School Health Nurses to develop a list of all student COVID-19 vaccination status of each student. BWCS School Administrators must develop a list of all staff COVID-19 vaccination status. Both lists are to be maintained and updated consistently.
11. BWCS and GRHC School Health Nurses must work cohesively, collaboratively and communicate on a daily basis the COVID-19 status of the students, COVID-19 positive cases, close contacts placed on quarantine, and any other issues/concerns pertaining to the health status of students. BWCS' Human Resources office will develop and maintain school employees' Covid-19 vaccination status, positive test results, quarantine status, return to work day and close contacts. BWCS' Attendance Secretary's office will develop and maintain school students' Covid-19 vaccination status, positive test results, quarantine status, return to work day and close contacts.

Additional BWCS guidelines provided:

All students and staff have been provided with a digital device.

Parent Educators/Home Visitors

- Training on best practices for hygiene
- Hand sanitizer available
- Disposable masks provided to each family
- Digital devices provided to each family
- Virtual visits available

Detailed plans for on-site learning:

Campus:

- New facility with new HVAC system that exchanges interior air every 34 minutes.
- Each classroom and office are equipped with air purifier units with HEPA filters
- Rooms and offices will be fogged every morning prior to employees or student entrance
- Frequently used surfaces (desks, door handles, restrooms, sinks) will be sanitized the night before and throughout the day
- All students and staff will be expected to wear a mask IN DOORS as appropriate while on campus or on the bus
- 3 feet social distance will be maintained to the extent possible
- Hand sanitizing stations located throughout the campus

Visitors: No visitors will be allowed to go into the classrooms. Parents that are checking in to the front office will be required to fill out the COVID-19 questionnaire and have their temperature taken and recorded.

Arrival at School:

- Hand sanitizer will be available to all students & staff
- Prior to eating students will wash hands
- Surfaces will be disinfected after breakfast
- Students will re-wash hands after eating

During School:

- Students will remain with their grade level cohorts
- Student desks will face forward, individual shields provided
- Frequently used surfaces will be sanitized throughout the day
- Before designated grade level lunch time, students will wash their hands in assigned sinks

During Lunch:

- Hands will be sanitized before lunch
- Students will get a premade tray and beverage of their choice
- Students will sit in their assigned seats
- Individual shields provided and placed 3 feet in distance when possible
- Students discard their trays
- Cafeteria tables and serving surfaces will be sanitized in between grade level cohorts
- Schools will continue to provide meals for children attending virtual classes.

Recess

- Designated areas by grade level cohort
- Hand sanitizer will be provided before re-entering the classroom

Dismissal

- Students will board buses and sit in assigned seats

After School Duties

- Teachers/staff will sanitize frequently touched surfaces and door handles
- Cleaning crew will clean and sanitize buildings and common areas

Appendix
Quarantine Instructions for Close Contacts

Close Contact: Someone who was less than 6 feet away from an infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes).

Yes		No
Students		
1. Are you 5 to 17 years old and fully vaccinated? You are fully vaccinated 14 days after you received a 1st and 2nd dose of a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.	Quarantine is <u>not</u> required Additional measures should be followed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test on day 5. But test immediately if symptoms develop. • If positive test result, follow isolation timeframe for positive case. 	Quarantine required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay home and quarantine. • Virtual learning in effect • Test on day 5. But test immediately if symptoms develop. • If negative test result and symptom-free for 24 hours and no one in home under quarantine, individual may end quarantine and return to school. • If positive test result, follow isolation timeframe for positive case.
Employees and FACE Adult Students		
2. Are you 18 years or older and fully vaccinated? You are fully vaccinated 14 days after you received a 1st and 2nd dose of a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine.	Quarantine is <u>not</u> required Additional measures should be followed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test on day 5. But test immediately if symptoms develop. • If positive test result, follow isolation timeframe for positive case. 	Quarantine required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay home and quarantine. • Virtual learning for FACE students • Test on day 5. But test immediately if symptoms develop. • If negative test result and symptom-free for 24 hours and no one in home under quarantine, individual may end quarantine and return to work or daily activity. • If positive test result, follow isolation timeframe for positive case.
3. Have you tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days?	Quarantine is not required Additional measures should be followed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you are having symptoms you should isolate until you are symptom-free for 24 hours. 	Quarantine is required. Follow isolation timeframe provided by your healthcare provider.

Quarantine for Close Contacts that live in the home of a positive case

If the close contact lives in the same home of the positive case, regardless of vaccination status, quarantine is required. Close contacts that live in the home of the positive case must follow the isolation timeframe for the positive case.

Isolation Guidelines

Isolation is used to separate people with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 from those without COVID-19.

Table 3. Isolation Timeframes for Positive Cases

Isolation for positive cases and quarantine for the household will be 10 days from the test date. All household members (except positive case) will need to test immediately.

- If their healthcare provider provides an isolation timeframe that is less than 10 days, the patients will be instructed to contact their healthcare provider for a return to work document.

Questions and Answers:

1) Do the students/staff have to wear masks during outside activities such as recess, PE time etc.

No, they do not.

2) If a staff member/student that is vaccinated gets a doctor's note allowing them to return to school after five days of quarantine is that allowed.

Staff must follow the testing, quarantine requirement and when they may return to on-site from their health care provider. Staff member must provide a doctor's note to School Administration if he/she is placed on quarantine which identifies when he/she may return to work/on-site.

If the student or staff has not been cleared by their health care provider or obtained a negative COVID-19 test result from a licensed healthcare facility, they must remain home until one of the requirements is met. It is the Parent/Guardian or staff member's responsibility to update the School Administration on their status and obtain requirement from their healthcare provider.

GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Post Office Box 2138
Sacaton, Arizona 85147
(520) 562-9732
FAX: (520) 562-9729

~ OFFICIAL MOTION ~

I, Linda Gomez, Standing Committee Assistant, hereby attest to the following **Motion** passed by the Education Standing Committee and Health & Social Standing Committee **JOINT** Meeting held Tuesday, July 19, 2022 1:00 p.m., by WebEx platform.

SUBJECT: NEW BUSINESS

2. Blackwater Community School Reopening Plans in accordance with Guidance Provided by the COVID-19 Task Force and Unified Command

MOTION: Councilman Arzie Hogg motioned to approve Blackwater Community School's amended school reopening plan for school year 2022-2023 contingent upon

(1) school ensuring their plan is updated to meet requirement 12 of the GRIC Schools COVID Plan–Academic Year 2022-2023 guidance document; and (2) continued compliance with the Community's Executive Order and GRIC Schools COVID Plan–Academic Year 2022-2023 guidance document, including any future updates or revisions; with monitoring of continued compliance by the Tribal Health Department and Tribal Education Department. If the Tribal Health Department and Tribal Education Department find non-compliance then the Tribal Education Department will notify the Executive Office and the Governor will issue a letter to the school advising the school their approval for in-person learning has been suspended and they must return to virtual learning for all students until such time that the school develops a corrective action plan that is approved by the Health and Social Standing Committee and Education Standing Committee; second by Councilwoman Wahlean Riggs

Vote: 5 Committee Members Present – 4 For; 0 Oppose; 0 Abstain; 0 Absent; 0 Vacancies; 1 Chair,
MOTION CARRIED

HEALTH & SOCIAL STANDING COMMITTEE

MOTION: Councilwoman Wahlean Riggs motioned to concur with the Education Standing Committee; second by Councilwoman Regina Antone

Vote: 4 Committee Members Present – 3 For; 0 Oppose; 0 Abstain; 1 Absent; 0 Vacancies; 1 Chair,
MOTION CARRIED



ATTEST:


Linda Gomez, Standing Committee Assistant