



# Frequently Asked Questions Granby High School Fall 2020



*Below are answers to Frequently Asked Questions collected from Granby's Back-to-School Survey. These will be updated weekly with new responses or corrections in green. Please note that we will do our best to make sure this information is up-to-date and as accurate as possible, but some items may change as we work-out procedures that have not been set in stone. This document was last updated on 9/6/20*

***New questions may be emailed to [AskGranby@npsk12.com](mailto:AskGranby@npsk12.com).***

## **What are Granby High School's main office hours?**

Starting Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, our phone hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00am-3:00pm. Our physical office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 10:00am-2:00pm. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing when coming to Granby High School.

## **I need to enroll a new student. How do I do this?**

Our enrollment information is available on our web site at this link: <https://www.npsk12.com/domain/6191>. Enrollment packets are available 24/7 outside of the front doors of the school in a small bin. Once all documentation is ready, you may email [chull@npsk12.com](mailto:chull@npsk12.com) to schedule an enrollment appointment, Tuesday-Thursday, 9:00am-1:00pm.

## **Why is Granby High School starting the first nine weeks of school virtually?**

The Norfolk School Board voted in July to open all Norfolk Public Schools virtually in the Fall for the first nine weeks of school. This decision was made in the best interest of the health and safety of all NPS Stakeholders. The school district will work with Norfolk's Health Department, evaluating Covid-19 data to determine how teaching and learning will take place after the first nine weeks.

## **When is the first day of school for virtual learning and what are the student hours?**

The first day of the 2020-2021 school year is Tuesday, September 8, 2020. The school day will start at 7:25am and end at 2:05pm. Unlike in the Spring, students will be expected to follow a daily bell schedule virtually. Students will follow the same odd (A-Day)/even (B-Day) schedule. The 2020-2021 A/B schedule can be found here:

<https://www.npsk12.com/cms/lib/VA02208074/Centricity/Domain/4/E-O%20Block%20Schedule%202020-2021%20upd%2027%20jul%202020.pdf>

## **Why are high school students expected to start at 7:25am?**

Norfolk Public Schools determined the start times for students which follows all previous start times for high school students. In the event students go back physically after the first nine weeks, students would still follow the same 7:25am-2:05pm schedule anyway and this would make the transition for students smoother.

## **Will Granby High School have regular office hours if questions come up during the school day?**

At this time, office hours for the regular school year have not been determined. We will update this FAQ once that has been determined. In the meantime, our main office remains open for phone calls Monday through Friday, 8:00am-3:00pm and has physical office hours 9:00am-1:00pm, Tuesday-Thursday. The office is closed on Fridays.

## **I cannot remember my ParentVue login information, how can I get my login credentials?**

Please email [AskGranby@npsk12.com](mailto:AskGranby@npsk12.com) to request this information. Please provide your name as well as your student's name in the email.

## **How do I update my contact information?**

Please email [AskGranby@npsk12.com](mailto:AskGranby@npsk12.com) with your name, student's name and any corrected contact information. Address changes require documentation and further instructions will be sent back to you if you email this needed change.



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## Will Fall teaching and learning look the same as the end of last school year during Spring 2020?

No, Fall virtual learning will look completely different than the Spring of 2020. Students will be expected to login to a live Zoom environment, following a daily bell schedule. The first class of the day will start at 7:25am and students are expected to be live with their teacher starting at that time. Teachers will be engaging students with live Zoom lessons, including opportunities for students to ask the teacher questions on demand, and interact with their classmates, including in smaller live groups. Like regular school, students will receive assignments and be expected to complete them by deadlines. Students will be graded under the traditional grading system with classwork, homework, projects, quizzes, and tests to be assigned, graded, and returned to students electronically. Students will be given independent time to work on these assignments during class time. Paper packets will not be made available for Fall teaching and learning. Below is a sample bell schedule provided by the district.

## Granby High School Virtual Bell Schedule 2020 (First 9 Weeks)

Bell/Class Agenda	Begin Time	End Time	Time
<b>1 or 2</b>	<b>7:25am</b>	<b>8:50am</b>	<b>1hr 25min</b>
Login/Attendance/Warm-Up	7:25am	7:35am	10
Direct Instruction/Practice	7:35am	8:15am	40
Small Group/Independent Work	8:15am	8:50am	35
Transition	8:50am	8:55am	5
<b>3 or 4</b>	<b>8:55am</b>	<b>10:20am</b>	<b>1hr 25min</b>
Login/Attendance/Warm-Up	8:55am	9:05am	10
Direct Instruction/Practice	9:05am	9:45am	40
Small Group/Independent Work	9:45am	10:20am	35
Transition	10:20am	10:25am	5
<b>5 or 6</b>	<b>10:25am</b>	<b>11:50am</b>	<b>1hr 25min</b>
Login/Attendance/Warm-Up	10:25am	10:35am	10
Direct Instruction/Practice	10:35am	11:15am	40
Small Group/Independent Work	11:15am	11:50am	35
<b>Lunch Break</b>	<b>11:50am</b>	<b>12:40pm</b>	<b>50 min</b>
<b>7 or 8</b>	<b>12:40pm</b>	<b>2:05pm</b>	<b>1hr 25min</b>
Login/Attendance/Warm-Up	12:40pm	12:50pm	10
Direct Instruction/Practice	12:50pm	1:30pm	40
Small Group/Independent Work	1:30pm	2:05pm	35



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### **Will attendance be taken daily?**

Yes, daily attendance, along with class period attendance will be taken. It is imperative that students log in each day and each bell for official attendance to be taken. Students who do not sign in to their classes on the first day of school will be contacted to assist with logging in to Canvas and Zoom sessions for class.

### **What technology is available to help my student with virtual learning?**

The district has ordered enough Chromebooks for each student to have one as needed. Chromebooks are expected to arrive mid to late August. While we expect those devices to arrive on-time for our distribution, if they are not here we will distribute first to those Granby families who completed the technology needs survey sent out the first week in August. T-Mobile Hotspot Mifi devices are on order but unfortunately not all will be in by the start of school. Those who pre-registered may be able to receive their MiFi before the start of school. The district is also working with Cox Communications on offering internet service for free or at a reduced price for NPS students.

### **If my student already has a device from NPS, what do I need to do?**

If your student received the device from Granby High School as a 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> grader last year, they may continue to use the devices issued to them. These were recorded in our database system and the student is still responsible for these devices. Any senior who graduated last year needs to return the device to the school. Students coming from other NPS schools as 8<sup>th</sup> graders or transfers, must either return the device to their previous school or may return the device to Granby High School and we will make sure it gets back to the previous school. Your student will then need to check out Granby's devices.

### **What will my student need to do on the first day of school and for each class?**

Prior to the first day of school, students first will need to make sure they know their NPS student email login credentials. Most students know their NPS login and password, however these will be provided during our distribution week starting August 31<sup>st</sup>. Students will use this to login into Canvas with will be the Learning Management System students will have to keep their online learning organized. When students login to Canvas, they will be able to select their classes which will pre-loaded into the system. Students need to make sure they have a copy of their schedule as well as the A/B (Odd/Even) schedule. Both of these items will also be provided during the distribution week. Students will go to the class scheduled for that bell and when selecting it the Zoom link they need to get to the class to participate will be there. The Zoom link will be provided for each class. Students need to make sure they stay on schedule when logging in. Teachers will give students further instructions during each class of how to access course materials in Canvas. Please visit our school's web site to download a Granby Virtual Start Guide.

### **What platforms will students use in order to interact with their teachers?**

The primary programs being used for virtual learning are Zoom and Canvas. Students in general should be used to the features of Zoom. Canvas will be a new virtual learning system that all Norfolk Public Schools will use. Canvas can be compared to Google Classroom, but offers additional features such as attendance taking, discussion boards, and other interactive features. During the first few weeks of school, students will receive training on how to use the features in Canvas. Students will login to these platforms using their NPS student login information. Students who do not know their login information will be able to receive this at our distribution times.

### **How will teachers keep my student engaged during instruction?**

Granby High School is providing extensive professional development to all teachers on strategies to keep students engaged during lessons. Students will not be on Zoom 100% of the time during each bell. A general bell schedule will be 10 minutes of opening, warm-up and attendance, 40 minutes of direct and interactive instruction on Zoom, and 35 minutes of small-group or independent activities.



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### **Will there be help or remediation sessions for students after school virtually?**

Yes, just like during regular school, help and remediation sessions will be offered for students virtually. That information will be shared with students through their Canvas accounts with links on how to access these sessions. Most of these sessions will not start until the third week of school.

### **Will there be expectations for students on behavior during Zoom sessions?**

Yes, students will be expected to follow specific guidelines and expectations when participating in a Zoom session as well as any other virtual learning platforms. Granby High School developed a set of expectations for students which will be shared the first week of school. Students who violate the Code of Student Conduct and other Norfolk School Board Policies will have consequences the same as if in attendance physically. Students are expected to use their actual name when logging into Zoom, as well as show their face during Zoom sessions, unless directed by the teacher to mute their video. Teachers will reserve the right to refuse entry of any student who does not follow protocols and also remove students from sessions if disrupting the learning environment. Students need to follow Norfolk Public School's Dress Code even when learning virtually. Granby High School is also working on an Honor Pledge to discourage cheating in the virtual environment.

### **My student is in the pre-IB or IB Program. Will anything change with their expectations?**

Expectations for Pre-IB and IB students will remain the same. Questions regarding the IB Program should be directed to Granby's IB Coordinator Rebecca Gardner at [rgardner@npsk12.com](mailto:rgardner@npsk12.com).

### **How will my student know the Zoom login schedule?**

Each teacher/bell will have a unique Zoom login link which will be used during the nine weeks. This will be shared on Canvas when a student logs in to that platform. In addition, teachers will email out these links in advance to the start of class.

### **What programs will students and parents use in order to communicate with teachers?**

Granby High School encourages parents to make sure updated contact information is provided to the school including phone numbers and email addresses. This can be emailed to [AskGranby@npsk12.com](mailto:AskGranby@npsk12.com). Granby teacher email addresses will be available on our web site under the "Our School" tab and then "Our Staff 2020-2021." Teachers will be communicating to parents using Synergy ParentVue which is why it is important that email addresses are current with the school. Students will be able to communicate with teachers through Canvas. In addition, each teacher at Granby will collect student cell phone numbers to create Remind accounts. This feature will be used for teachers to communicate with students individually or to send out reminders. This will also be used to help with communication if for some reason technology stops working during class time.

### **When can we pick up a Chromebook, MiFi and/or classroom materials such as textbooks, instruments, art supplies, etc.?**

Students and parents will be able to pick-up these items starting August 31<sup>st</sup>. A full schedule is posted on our web site and below. A parent or guardian must be in attendance to sign-out any technology. Granby has approximately 2,000 students, so we ask that you adhere to this schedule as much as possible. Items will be distributed from the gym side of the building. Unfortunately, due to limited staffing, drive-up services will not be available at this time.

**Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup>** – 1<sup>st</sup> Time 9<sup>th</sup> Graders only – 12:00pm-6:00pm (1<sup>st</sup> time 9<sup>th</sup> graders may choose their last name alphabet day below as well.)

**Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>** – Any 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grader with the last name A-K only – 12:00pm-6:00pm



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**Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Any 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grader with the last name A-K only – 12:00pm-6:00pm

**Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Any 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grader with the last name L-Z only – 12:00pm-6:00pm

**Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup>** – Any 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grader with the last name L-Z only – 12:00pm-6:00pm

**Saturday, September 5<sup>th</sup>** – Any 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grader who did not pick-up on their assigned days – 10:00am-2:00pm

Unfortunately, device distribution will not be available during the first week of school, as we will need to focus our attention on new enrollments. It is imperative that students and parents come to school during the planned distribution week in order to be prepared for the start of school.

Due to CDC social distancing guidelines the amount of people allowed in the school at any time will be limited. Students and parents who come in the beginning and towards the end of the daily times may have to wait in social distancing lines.

## **I have a new 9<sup>th</sup> grader, when is 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation?**

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions, Granby will not be able to hold a physical 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation this year. Our virtual orientation was released on Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 5. You can visit our web site to view the video or select this link: <https://youtu.be/zFQfefK6Y4g>.

## **I have a new 9<sup>th</sup> grader, when do I register them for school?**

Students coming from a Norfolk middle school (8<sup>th</sup> grader last school year), zoned for Granby High School are automatically enrolled at Granby High School. Only students new to NPS including those coming from private school need to register. Enrollment information can be found on Granby's web site.

## **When will my student's schedule be ready?**

Granby is working to finalize schedules by August 31<sup>st</sup>. Schedules will be available for view in StudentVue and ParentVue once loaded. Granby will also have schedules available during our distribution week which starts August 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **My student is scheduled to take a class at the Norfolk Technical Center (NTC)? How will this work?**

Students signed up for courses at NTC will still be able to take those courses. NTC will reach out to students on how they will be contacted by teachers to receive their Zoom links for class.

## **Why didn't my student get some of the electives they requested?**

We try very hard to give every student their first choices for electives. Unfortunately, some of our classes do not have enough available seats and we have to place students in their second choice.

## **How can my student request a schedule change?**

Please contact your school counselor via email. All counselor contact information can be found here: <https://www.npsk12.com/domain/4726>. We do not honor schedule changes to have a different teacher. Schedule change requests are if there is an error on the schedule or if a student needs to change elective choice if available.

## **What is my student needs social or emotional support during the school day?**

Our school counselors will be available to support students during the school day. Information on how to schedule an appointment to speak to a school counselor will be made available when school starts.

## **My student has an IEP, how will special education services work?**





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The Department of Learning Support-Special Education Services continues to collaborate with other departments and schools to meet the needs of students with disabilities. They are carefully working on several considerations, including but not limited to the following:

- Coordination of special education teachers, paraprofessionals, related service professionals, and other staff to provide a virtual learning experience with increased opportunities for teacher/staff directed instruction;
- Clear expectations around the roles of various special education staff, their effective use, and communication of standards with parents/guardians during a virtual learning experience to benefit students with disabilities;
- Exploration of teletherapy options to provide speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and other appropriate related services to our students during a virtual school environment; and
- Opportunities to support parent/guardians in maximizing the virtual learning experience for our students through workshops, information session with the Department of Learning Support-Special Education Services, and parent/guardian peer groups.

### **My student had an IDEA meeting that was postponed or has an IEP meeting that needs to be made current. When will IEP meetings resume?**

The Department of Learning Support-Special Education services has worked diligently to establish expectation and procedures for continuing all IDEA meetings that were postponed during the mandated closure of schools. Concerns for the safety of students and staff remain paramount in these decisions as the school division's ability to maintain the integrity and effectiveness of special education processes. Recently all IDEA meetings have resumed. The expectation is that all IDEA meetings will be held and brought current by December 1, 2020. In doing so, Granby High School's Special Education Department is working through a process based on the priority level of the meeting type and circumstance. We have started communicating to families in order of this priority to schedule these meetings. Immediate meeting priorities include:

- IDEA meetings already held and required a parent consent signature only;
- Eligibility determination meetings with all testing completed;
- Initial IEP meetings required as a follow-up to already held eligibility determination meetings;
- Transfer IEP Meetings;
- Annual IEP review meetings due through September 30, 2020 and
- IEP meetings that include related services evaluations or placement change recommendations where the observation and evaluation components have already been completed.

IDEA meetings and processes that require the completion of student evaluations will resume by appointment. Granby staff will contact parents/guardians to schedule appointments at mutually agreeable times, in designated school locations, under social distancing guidelines, and with appropriate health mitigation practices in place.

### **Will there be clubs and activities?**

Athletics will be addressed in a separate FAQ below. Yes, Granby High School will be offering clubs and other activities virtually after the first two weeks of schools. These schedules and links will be provided by Granby's weekly general communication system via email and announcements through Canvas. Due to the security of posting Zoom session links online, a general schedule will be posted on our web site <https://www.npsk12.com/domain/4254>, but students will have to email the sponsors to get the links to the sessions.

### **Will there be athletics this year?**



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Yes, if students are allowed to attend physically and approved by Norfolk Public Schools, VHSL adjusted the seasons to allow for athletics this year. Conditioning will be allowed starting in September even with virtual learning, once Norfolk Public School's Covid-19 Plan is approved by the Norfolk Health Department. Any student wishing to participate in conditioning will have to provide their own transportation.

- Season 1 (Winter) December 14 – February 20 (First Contest Date – December 28)
  - basketball, gymnastics, indoor track, swim/dive, wrestling
- Season 2 (Fall) February 15 – May 1 (First Contest Date – March 1)
  - cheer, cross country, field hockey, football, golf, volleyball
- Season 3 (Spring) April 12 – June 26 (First Contest Date – April 26)
  - baseball, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, track and field

### Are athletic physicals being provided?

Now is a good time to get your physical done for possible athletics during this school year. Below is a list of locations offering physicals for \$20 cash. You can print the physical form from our Granby Athletic web page <https://granbyhs.rschooteams.com/>. Please remember that you must also hand in a Norfolk concussion form (also found on our athletic web site) to be eligible for any preseason sport conditioning or tryouts. You can turn in these completed forms off at our front office at Granby or email them to [jharris@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:jharris@nps.k12.va.us) Email Athletic Director Chris Harris at this email for any further questions.

Physical Schedule:

- ~~Saturday, 8/22, 9am @ BTW~~
- Tuesday, 8/25, 5pm @ LTHS
- Wednesday, 8/26, 5pm @ LTHS
- Wednesday, 9/2, 5pm @ Powhatan Stadium
- Saturday, 9/12, 9am @ Norview HS

### When are Senior Photos being scheduled?

Granby High School has now partnered with Lifetouch as our official photographer. Lifetouch is now part of Shutterfly which also recently purchased Snapfish. The combination of these three companies now offers more products for our students and their families. Unfortunately, due to school closures, in-person sittings will not be scheduled at Granby High School during the first nine weeks. Seniors will have the opportunity however to schedule appointments for sittings at Lifetouch's studios in Virginia Beach. More information can be found on our website and was emailed out to Seniors on Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### What is Virtual Scholars Academy?

The VSA is an option for parents/guardians to have their child attend a virtual (Online) school the entire 2020-2021 school year. Since the whole school division will be online for at least the first quarter of the school year, the VSA will just be a continuation of the first quarter that your child will experience from September to at least Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>. The only thing that may change, would be the actual teacher depending on staffing needs.

That is it...everything else will remain the same. Students will be able to participate in sports, school activities, specialty programs, and receive gifted support. Special education support may change if we are not able to provide appropriate services in an online environment, as determined by the IEP team.



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The VSA students will continue with the same curriculum and pacing for the rest of the school year **all online**, while the rest of the division will be following a blended/ face to face model. This is a program for K-12 NPS students. If you plan to send your child back to school once we move into a face to face instructional model, it is recommended that you do not fill out the application. Students can have the option leave VSA and to go back physically after the first semester.

~~This is a link to the application for The Virtual Scholars Academy: <https://bit.ly/33aGBVt>. Enrollment in the Virtual Scholars Academy is now closed. Email [AskGranby@npsk12.com](mailto:AskGranby@npsk12.com) if you have further questions. There are additional answers to questions on the division VSA webpage: <https://www.npsk12.com/Domain/6089>~~

~~If you have additional questions about VSA, please email: Dr. Cataldo at [mcataldo@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:mcataldo@nps.k12.va.us)~~

**I have changed my mind about having my student enrolled in VSA. How do I withdraw them from that program?**

Please email [AskGranby@npsk12.com](mailto:AskGranby@npsk12.com) with the name of your student asking to withdraw from VSA.