



November 16, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I want to update you on an important **schedule change** for the week *after* Thanksgiving, Monday, November 30, through Friday, December 4.

- GSA's campus will be closed the week *after* Thanksgiving, and *all* classes will be conducted remotely. All students will have all their classes, every day, online, whether they are in Group A, Group B, or are already fully remote students.
- Adding these five remote class days after Thanksgiving to the two remote class days before Thanksgiving (Monday, November 23, and Tuesday, November 24, next week) gives us seven fully remote class days over two weeks.
- All seven remote days are *mandatory* for all students. Attendance is required, and graded work will be due. I ask for your assistance in ensuring students attend all their classes remotely, following the special all-remote schedule at the end of this letter.

Why are we doing this? There are two reasons.

First, we all know there will be travel and visiting over the holiday weekend. This, coupled with the dramatically escalating infection rates in Maine and here in Hancock County, increases the risk of someone in our GSA community becoming infected. Waiting ten days following Thanksgiving Day until people return to campus improves the likelihood of new infections becoming known before infected persons come to campus. They will be able to quarantine, and we will have reduced the risk of someone with the virus coming to campus. (An outbreak on campus would trigger a longer campus closure and disruptions.)

Second, seven consecutive school days of fully remote classes will give both students and teachers valuable practice should we need to close the campus later this winter owing to an outbreak. Once we return to in-person learning on Monday, December 7, we will gather feedback from teachers and students that we can all learn from.

I know this is a change, and change can disrupt plans, and I am sorry for inconveniences to families. However, we make this change to maximize the chances of continuing on-campus classes, and to improve our ability to do all-remote teaching and learning better, benefitting all our students.

Respectfully,

Tim Seeley

GSA Bell Schedule 2020-2021 for ALL-REMOTE Week Nov. 30-Dec. 4

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
REMOTE	REMOTE	REMOTE	REMOTE	REMOTE

PERIOD 1 9:00 - 9:50				
-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------

PERIOD 2 10:00 - 10:50				
---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

PERIOD 3 11:30 - 12:20				
---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------	---------------------------

PERIOD 4 12:30 - 1:20				
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

TEACHER OFFICE HOURS 1:30 - 2:30	ADVISORY 1:30 - 2:00	TEACHER OFFICE HOURS 1:30 - 2:30	ADVISORY 1:30 - 2:00	TEACHER OFFICE HOURS 1:30 - 2:30
--	-------------------------	--	-------------------------	--