



# NORTH STAR NEWS

North Gresham Elementary - 1001 SE 217th Ave., Gresham, OR 97030 - Phone: 503-661-6415 Fax: 503-258-4729



## A Special Video from North Gresham Staff

Welcome to the new school year North Stars! Please watch this special video made by North Gresham staff for our students: <https://youtu.be/LgDJeB8QDiw>

## **Mark Your Calendar**

- 9/8-9/9** Chromebook Distribution from 10am-5pm
- 9/14** First Day of Online School
- 9/21** PTC Meeting (online) 6:30 p.m.
- 9/22** Materials Distribution for K-1 from 4:15-7:15 p.m.
- 9/23** Materials Distribution for 2-3 from 4:15-7:15 p.m.
- 9/24** Materials Distribution for 4-5 from 4:15-7:15 p.m.

## **Principal's Message**

Dear North Gresham Elementary Students and Family Members,

Welcome back to the 2020-2021 school year! While this will not be a conventional school year and there are still many uncertainties, I am confident that with positivity and flexibility we will make this an outstanding year for our students and families. I look forward to getting to know each of you and learning about things you love at North Gresham Elementary School. Although distance learning has many barriers to building relationships, I am determined to make it a high priority.

As a parent of a 7th-grade student and a 10th-grade student, I completely understand the trials and tribulations that families have faced and continue to face as we start a new academic year. The family unit is an essential part of a child's educational experience. Now, more than ever, we will need to build a strong foundation together so that our children can still have access to quality education. I do not want to pretend that this will be easy to accomplish or easy for our students, staff, and families to manage. On the contrary, it will be a challenge for all stakeholders. Flexibility, understanding, and empathy need to be at the forefront of our minds as we navigate these uncharted waters.

The Gresham-Barlow School District and North Gresham Elementary School are committed to providing the best online education by utilizing the Canvas Learning Management System. This system better aligns our efforts K-12. Our online learning will be the foundation for when we can return to a more traditional brick and mortar setting. Additional information from the school district and your child's teacher will be forthcoming.



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I am excited to announce that each child will have the opportunity to check out a device to use at home. This will allow families with multiple school-aged children to have a device to avoid any scheduling conflicts. You will need to be sure and have your child’s student ID number at the time of pick-up. Below is the schedule and locations for device pick-up:

If your **oldest** student is in **high school** pickup device(s) on **either Tuesday, September 1, or Wednesday, September 2.**

If your **oldest** student is in **middle school** pickup device(s) on **either Wednesday, September 2 or Thursday, September 3.**

If your **oldest** student is in **elementary school** pickup device(s) on **either Tuesday, September 8, or Wednesday, September 9.**

**Pick Up Locations:**

<p><b>East Gresham Elementary</b> 900 SE 5th Street Gresham, OR 97080</p>	<p><b>North Gresham Elementary</b> 1001 SE 217th Avenue Gresham, OR 97030</p>
<p><b>Powell Valley Elementary</b> 4825 SE Powell Valley Road Gresham, OR 97080</p>	<p><b>Hall Elementary</b> 2505 NE 23rd Street Gresham, OR 97030</p>
<p><b>Clear Creek Middle School</b> 219 NE 219th Avenue Gresham, OR 97030</p>	<p><b>Dexter McCarty Middle School</b> 1400 SE 5th Street Gresham, OR 97080</p>

In addition to providing each student with a computer, we will have an opportunity for families to pick up additional materials that can be used at home to help with Comprehensive Distance Learning. Students will get the following additional materials: individual whiteboard, whiteboard marker, whiteboard eraser, Journeys Reading textbook, Ready Math textbook, Ready Math student workbook, and a response card. At any time, the teacher may need students to use these materials, so it is vital that you pick them up at North Gresham Elementary School. Below is the pickup schedule:

- Kindergarten & 1st Grade - September 22nd between 4:15 pm - 7:15 pm
- 2nd & 3rd Grade - September 23rd between 4:15 pm - 7:15 pm
- 4th & 5th Grade - September 24th between 4:15 pm - 7:15 pm



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If you have multiple children, please just come on the day of your oldest child, and you will be able to pick up these materials for your younger children. This will be a drive-up service, so no need to get out of the car. We want to make sure this is easy for parents.

As we start distance learning this year, we will be providing more structure to maximize teaching and learning. Below you will find an example of a possible general schedule that all K-5 students will follow district-wide. This schedule is meant to provide additional educational opportunities for your child. The GBSD will continually monitor our social situation to identify a time when it is safe for us to return to a brick and mortar setting. Until further notice, we are strictly providing online learning as our only option.

***\*Sample Schedule - More Details to Come\****

TIME	EXPECTATION
8:30 - 8:50	Morning Meeting ( <b>Live Sessions</b> )
8:50 - 9:10	Whole Group Reading Instruction ( <b>Prerecorded</b> )
9:30 - 10:30	Small Group Reading Instruction/Applied Learning ( <b>Live Sessions</b> )
10:30 - 10:50	Whole Group Writing Instruction ( <b>Prerecorded</b> )
10:50 - 11:05	Small Group Writing Instruction/Applied Learning ( <b>Live Sessions</b> )
11:05 - 11:45	Lunch
11:45 - 12:05	Whole Group Math Instruction ( <b>Prerecorded</b> )
12:05 - 1:05	Small Group Math Instruction/Applied Learning ( <b>Live Sessions</b> )
1:05 - 1:25	Science/Health Whole Group Instruction ( <b>Prerecorded</b> )
1:25 - 2:00	Small Group Science Instruction/Applied Learning ( <b>Live Sessions</b> )
2:00 - 2:30	Applied Learning/Student Wellness

These times and activities are in draft form at this point, and things will continue to be revised. Somethings to consider when looking at this general schedule are the following:

- Students ***do not*** have to be physically present during the live instruction, these sessions will be recorded for families that need to watch them at a later time.



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- Students ***will not*** be online 100% of the day, and students will be able to break away from the computer during parts of the small group instruction parts of the day.
- Students ***will*** also have access to Music and Physical Education throughout the week.
- Students who receive Special Education, Speech, or ELD services ***will*** still receive those services throughout the week.

Please know we are here to support you and your child. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email at [sewell2@gresham.k12.or.us](mailto:sewell2@gresham.k12.or.us) or via phone at 503.661.6415.

Respectfully,

Shawnda Sewell, Principal



As North Stars we know "Together We Reach, We Rise, and We Shine!"

## **Important Information**

### **Student Engagement (attendance) Info for Families**

Read [here](#).

### **Stay Updated**

Please visit our district [website](#) to stay updated on current events, information, and resources during distance learning. For North Gresham events and updates, please visit our school website [here](#).

### **All GBSD Buildings Closed**

Due to COVID-19, all GBSD buildings and schools are closed to the public at this time.

### **ParentVue**

Register on ParentVue. If you need assistance with setting up ParentVue, please call the school at 503-661-6415. You can also email our secretaries at [thomas82@gresham.k12.or.us](mailto:thomas82@gresham.k12.or.us) or [stevens@gresham.k12.or.us](mailto:stevens@gresham.k12.or.us). Visit the ParentVue web page to login or sign up: <https://www.gresham.k12.or.us/domain/2446>

### **Verify Student Information**

Before the beginning of every school year, we request that parents/guardians review and/or update their family and student information.



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Keeping your family's information up to date is crucial to receiving timely communication from Gresham-Barlow School District and ensures that you can be contacted in case of an emergency. This year all updates can be done online through your ParentVUE account.

After logging in to ParentVUE, click on the "Online Registration" tab in the top right-hand corner to start the verification process. Please note that this will not work on a mobile device.

## **Resources**

### **Family Resources**

[Click here](#) to view current resources available to families, including childcare, housing, food, and mental health.

### **Grab-and-Go Meals**

Begins September 14th! Monday-Friday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. [Click here](#) for more information.

### **Local Resources**

If you are in need of food, utility or housing assistance, please consider contacting 2-1-1 by phone or at their website <https://www.211info.org/> to find out the latest information about where you can get help. Additional resources can be found here: <https://www.gresham.k12.or.us/domain/1129>. If you receive SNAP benefits, please contact your local self-sufficiency office to inquire about assistance.

If you are experiencing a mental health crisis or need someone to talk to you, please consider contacting the following crisis lines. Support is available to you 24 hours a day.

Lines for Life: 1-800-273-8255

Youthline: 1-877-968-8491 or text "teen2teen" to 839863

Clackamas County Crisis Line: 503-655-8585

Multnomah County Crisis Line: 503-988-4888

The Trevor Project: 1-866-488-7386

## **Stay Connected**

### **Follow Us on Facebook**

Follow and like North Gresham Elementary's Facebook page! Watch Morning Announcements Monday-Friday at 8:10 a.m., and Story Time Monday-Thursday at 7:30 p.m.!

Go to: [www.facebook.com/NorthGreshamElementarySchool](http://www.facebook.com/NorthGreshamElementarySchool).



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## **PTC**

Read a special letter from our North Gresham PTC [here](#). Join us for our first PTC meeting online on September 21st at 6:30 p.m.! Click [here](#) for more information.

## **Contacting the Office**

You can reach the office staff by calling our school at 503-661-6415, Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please leave a voicemail, if necessary, and your call will be returned as soon as possible. You can also email our office team at any time. Nina Thomas at [thomas82@gresham.k12.or.us](mailto:thomas82@gresham.k12.or.us), and Heather Stevens at [stevens@gresham.k12.or.us](mailto:stevens@gresham.k12.or.us).

## **Send Your Photos!**

We started a Facebook photo album called *North Stars Shine Online*. We want to see photos of North students and staff showing us how they shine during online learning. Take a picture of your child's school workspace, doing their schoolwork, or a photo of a drawing or special message they made encouraging their fellow North Stars! Do you want your photo added to the album? Send to Nina Thomas at [thomas82@gresham.k12.or.us](mailto:thomas82@gresham.k12.or.us). View our album [here](#).