

GREEN DOT PUBLIC SCHOOLS TENNESSEE

RE-ENTRY PLAN

2020 - 2021

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Dear Green Dot Community:

Schools serve as the cornerstone of every community. We believe that schools are foundational to the intellectual and social development of our children - and we know that students learn best when they are in school.

COVID-19 has challenged our health, financial security, and emotional wellness. It has further challenged us to rethink how we do our core work of educating students when they cannot be in school. We've spent many weeks in learning mode - listening to health experts, studying virtual education models, gathering feedback from stakeholders, and collaborating with peers across the country to design a Re-Entry Plan focused on student learning and community safety. We've learned that there is no perfect plan. We've also learned that our plan will undoubtedly change as we learn more about the realities of this pandemic. Most importantly, we've learned that we can create academic programs that are rigorous, nurturing, and engaging - whether at home or in our school buildings.

The Green Dot Public School Tennessee (GDPST) Re-Entry Plan details three scenarios for student learning:

1. **Distance Learning:** If schools need to be closed for safety reasons, all students will participate in Distance Learning. Full days of instruction will be provided live by our teachers, using our pre-pandemic curriculum.
2. **In-Person Learning:** When it is deemed safe to return to school, in-person learning will resume with significant safety measures in place that include limited movement, masks, and cohorting of students into small groups.
3. **Homeschool Learning:** When it is deemed safe to return to school, students may choose the Homeschool Learning model, where they will receive live-streamed, interactive instruction from their teachers' classrooms.

This GDPST Re-Entry Plan will illustrate the process for returning to learning. Before you dive into the details of our plan, we want to share the following key messages:

1. School will begin on August 10th using our Distance Learning Model.
2. Each student will be assigned a laptop for the first day of school. Additionally, we will work with families in need of internet access.
3. We will NOT require you to commit to an option (In-Person or Homeschool) for the entire semester. We will work with you to find an option that best suits your child's needs. We further recognize that your needs may change during the course of the semester, and we will honor your decision to change whether you choose the In-Person or Homeschool model.

The mission of Green Dot Public Schools is to transform public education so ALL students graduate prepared for college, leadership and life. Now more than ever, our organization is committed to making this a reality for students by focusing on rigorous academics while maintaining health and safety policies that meet the immediate needs of our school community.

OVERVIEW

Our everyday work is grounded in the Green Dot mission to help transform public education so all students graduate prepared for college, leadership and life. To address the challenges brought by this pandemic, it is critical that we ground our plan in our mission. To ensure that we maintain focus on our mission while planning for Re-Entry, we have created a project vision and defined guiding principles to steer this work.

PROJECT VISION

When creating and executing our Re-Entry Plan, we commit to maximizing student learning while prioritizing community wellness and safety.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

To effectively plan and execute our vision and project outcomes, we are adhering to the following guiding principles:



Safety

We will leverage science, data, and public health leadership to inform the choices we make.



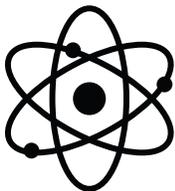
Social Emotional Well-Being

Families need to be well-informed of options and have time to make decisions that are best for their students. Families may need access to services like counseling to manage the stress of the pandemic.



Continuity of Learning

Student learning models must closely mirror those offered pre-pandemic. Irrespective of learning scenario, students will be taught by the same teachers they would have if the school were open. The Green Dot curriculum will be adapted for virtual lesson delivery.



Equity

Green Dot students deserve a great education, including access to technology and quality materials. They also deserve opportunities for enrichment programs through advisory and extra-curricular programming.



Community

The Green Dot community is a family. We must be transparent, communicate frequently, and authentically seek input from our stakeholders to ensure that we build great neighborhood schools.

WORKING GROUPS

To ensure that we receive adequate stakeholder input, we have organized working groups aligned with our organizational strategic pillars and staffed with home office team members, school administrators, teachers, counselors, classified staff, students, parents, and community members. These teams are digging into specific plans for student learning and school safety. Leaders from each working group serve on the Re-Entry Advisory Committee to ensure that the plan is comprehensive, cohesive and actionable. Additionally, a student working group - comprised of student leaders from each campus - will provide input on the Re-Entry Plan.

We are grateful for the extraordinary efforts of our Working Groups! [Click here to see a full list of team members.](#)



Working groups employ a combination of research, expert advice, and stakeholder feedback to craft plans. Additionally, Green Dot collected regular feedback in the following forms:

- **Surveys:** Students, parents, staff, and stakeholders were regularly surveyed to provide feedback on sections of the plan.
- **Virtual Meetings:** Green Dot is hosting a series of virtual meetings to allow for real-time discussion on topics where we need community input. Scheduled meetings focus on In-Person Learning, Distance Learning, and Student Orientation. Additional meetings will be scheduled throughout the summer as detailed plans for return to learning are created.
- **Expert & Peer Collaboration:** GDPST is collaborating with school networks and experts locally and throughout the country to review Re-Entry Plans and share best practices.

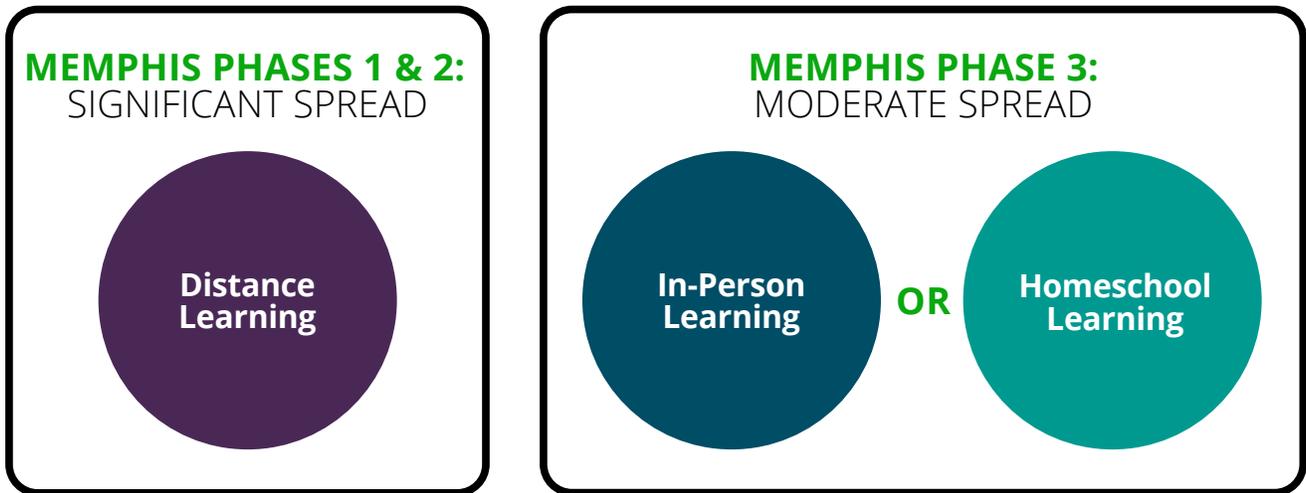
Green Dot will continue to solicit feedback from stakeholders throughout the first semester to ensure that we are executing our vision to maximize student learning while prioritizing community wellness and safety.

SCHOOL OPENING SCENARIOS

The GDSPT Re-Entry Plan employs the [*City of Memphis: A Back to Business Framework*](#) phases of re-opening to determine the three scenarios for school operations that range from full school closure with a virtual learning program to full return to operations post-pandemic. The school's learning model will depend upon the city's phase of re-opening. If the city declares it will return to Phase 1 or 2 of re-opening, GDPST campuses will be closed. During Phase 3, schools will reopen with academic plans aligned to social distancing recommendations. While schools are in Phase 3, families will have an option to Homeschool their students.

Only after Memphis announces there is zero or minimal viral spread, will GDPST campuses turn to normal operations.

The graphic below illustrates the scenarios:



SCHOOL YEAR & DAY

The Tennessee State Board of Education (SBE) COVID-19 Continuous Learning Policy mandates that all schools provide 6.5 hours of instruction per day over a 180 day school year (T.C.A. §49-6-3004). All three scenarios for student learning - Distance Learning, In-Person, and Homeschool - offer the requisite learning hours and days this year.

[*Click here to access our 2020-2021 School Calendar*](#)



ACADEMIC PLANS: DISTANCE LEARNING

(PHASES 1 & 2)

While Memphis remains in Phases 1 or 2 of Re-Opening, Green Dot campuses will provide Distance Learning to all students. To ensure that we realize our mission to prepare all students for success in college, leadership, and life, **students will be enrolled in the same classes they would take if school were open.** Student schedules will include: Advisory, Electives, English, History, Math and Science. High School students will have an opportunity to take all courses needed to graduate. Middle school students will engage in the coursework necessary to be prepared for success in high school.

Students will be taught by the same teachers they would have if the school were open. The Distance Learning schedule illustrates how students will spend their days learning virtually. Each instructional block will include a combination of teacher-led instruction, discussion, and independent student learning. Green Dot's distance learning technology also allows for small group and individualized instruction. At the end of each learning block, students will be expected to submit coursework electronically. The Friday schedule will allow opportunities for students to engage in additional practice, take assessments, and receive individualized or small-group instruction based on feedback from the week's assignments.

Advisory is central to our academic model at Green Dot. Students will continue to meet with their advisories at the beginning of each day. We will continue to follow our advisory curriculum to ensure that students are learning the skills needed to successfully navigate the distance learning environment, developing community, engaging in social-emotional learning, and, for our seniors, beginning the college application process.

Special Education students will receive services in accordance with their Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). English Language Learners will receive services in accordance with their Individualized Learning Plans (ILPs).

As happens when schools are open, teachers will schedule 'office hours' each week to provide time for students to receive additional support. Teachers will post their office hours schedule and Google Meet link to their Google Classroom page.

We want to ensure that students are receiving the same rigorous, grade-level content during distance learning that they would receive if classes were meeting in our classrooms. To that end, we will be utilizing the following digital platforms and resources:

- Google Classroom: *Google Classroom is the digital hub for distance learning. Students will be able to access and submit their assignments, join their 'live' classes on Google Meet, communicate with their teachers.*
- NearPod: *NearPod allows teachers to present our regular curriculum real-time to students in a way that allows students to engage in polls, discussions, interactive media, quizzes, and more.*
- iReady: *iReady provides additional instruction for English language learners, special education students, and English and Math intervention.*
- EdPuzzle: *EdPuzzle allows students to view teacher selected videos with questions inserted throughout to check for understanding.*
- *Additional digital resources that support learning in specific content areas and meet student needs.*

ACADEMIC PLANS: DISTANCE LEARNING

(PHASES 1 & 2)

Sample Weekly Distance Learning Schedule

Note: Green Dot will continue to offer all Advanced Placement and Dual Credit courses provided when school is regularly in session; this schedule may vary for some students depending on course needs.

Sample Weekly Schedule - Student View

<u>M</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>TH</u>	<u>F</u>
8:15 - 9:15 Advisory	8:15 - 9:15 Advisory	8:15 - 9:15 Advisory	8:15 - 9:15 Advisory	8:15 - 8:45 Advisory
9:20 - 11:20 English	9:20 - 11:20 Math	9:20 - 11:20 English	9:20 - 11:20 Math	8:50 - 10:20 English
11:20 - 11:50 Lunch	11:20 - 11:50 Lunch	11:20 - 11:50 Lunch	11:20 - 11:50 Lunch	10:25 - 11:55 Science
12:00 - 2:00 Science	12:00 - 2:00 Social Studies (6-8, 10-12)	12:00 - 2:00 Science	12:00 - 2:00 Social Studies (6-8, 10-12)	11:55 - 12:25 Lunch
2:05 - 3:35 Elective 1	Lifetime Wellness (9)	2:05 - 3:35 Elective 1	Lifetime Wellness (9)	12:30 - 2:00 Math
	2:05 - 3:35 Elective 2		2:05 - 3:35 Elective 2	2:05 - 3:35 Social Studies (6-8, 10-12) Lifetime Wellness (9)

Students will be expected to attend class for the full period, every day. If a student is sick and not able to attend class, the school must be notified so make up work can be provided. Student policies regarding attendance, make-up work, and chronic absenteeism will be in place during Distance Learning.

Student grading policies will remain the same as the pre-pandemic policies. [Click here to access the GDPST Student Policy Manual.](#)

Students participating in Distance Learning will have a Student Learning Plan (SLP) that clearly outlines expectations for learning and offerings for additional support. Students will set learning and school life goals with their advisory teachers. There will be an opportunity to reflect on these plans throughout the semester in advisory class. If a student moves from one learning scenario to another (e.g., Distance Learning to In-Person), the SLP will be revisited and adjusted as needed.

ACADEMIC PLANS: IN-PERSON LEARNING

(PHASE 3)

When Memphis shifts to Phase 3 of Re-Opening, Green Dot campuses will offer In-Person Learning with significant safety measures. Students will be enrolled in Advisory and six additional courses. **Course offerings and teachers will be the same for Distance Learning, In-Person Learning, or Homeschool Learning.** This will allow for continuity for when a student moves between any of the three learning scenarios.

The bell schedules for In-Person learning will look similar to the bell schedules employed when schools were last open, although start and end times have been adjusted to accommodate transportation safety requirements. [Click here to access your school's bell schedule.](#)

During In-Person Learning, students will be 'cohorted' for the school day, meaning they will travel with the same group of students to all classes. While students will be required to wear masks at all times, cohorting students into groups is recommended to mitigate the spread of the virus.

To encourage safety, instruction during In-Person learning will look different in the following ways:

- Students will not share classroom materials (e.g., supplies and books).
- While students will participate in discussions with one another, typical grouping strategies will be limited.
- Teachers will spend more time at the front of the classroom.

Special Education students will receive services in accordance with their Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). English Language Learners will receive services in accordance with their Individualized Learning Plans (ILPs).

As happens when schools are open, teachers will schedule 'office hours' each week to provide time for students to receive additional support. Teachers will post their office hours schedule and Google Meet link to their Google Classroom page.

Students will be expected to attend class for the full period, every day. If a student is sick and not able to attend class, the school must be notified so make up work can be provided. Student policies regarding attendance, make-up work, and chronic absenteeism will be in place during In-Person Learning.

Student grading policies will remain the same as the pre-pandemic policies. [Click here to access the GDPST Student Policy Manual.](#)

Students participating in In-Person Learning will have a Student Learning Plan (SLP) that clearly outlines expectations for learning and offerings for additional support. Students will set learning and school life goals with their advisory teachers. There will be an opportunity to reflect on these plans throughout the semester in advisory class. If a student moves from one learning scenario to another (e.g., Homeschool to In-Person), the SLP will be revisited and adjusted as needed.

ACADEMIC PLANS: HOMESCHOOL LEARNING

(PHASE 3)

When health officials determine it is safe to return to school, families with health concerns may choose the Homeschool Learning option for their students. Both the teacher-student relationship and continuity of learning are important. Therefore, students will be enrolled in courses with the same teachers as they would with either Distance Learning or In-Person Learning.

Students will follow the In-Person bell schedule for Homeschool learning. [Click here to access your school's bell schedule.](#)

During Homeschool Learning, students will be encouraged to find space free from distractions so they can focus on class discussion and complete necessary assignments. Students are encouraged to wear their school polo shirts to get in the mindset of school.

Special Education students will receive services in accordance with their Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). English Language Learners will receive services in accordance with their Individualized Learning Plans (ILPs).

Instruction during Homeschool learning will look different in the following ways:

- Students will see a split screen of the following: livestreamed classroom instruction and the lesson's instructional materials (e.g., PowerPoint or other document).
- Students will not be able to interact with the teacher and other students as fully as they would in the classroom; however, they will be able to ask and answer questions via chat.
- Students will be responsible for completing all work assigned during class via Google Classroom.

Teachers will schedule 'office hours' each week to provide time for students to receive additional support. Teachers will post their office hours schedule and Google Meet link to their Google Classroom page.

Students will be expected to attend class for the full period, every day. If a student is sick and not able to attend class, the school must be notified so make up work can be provided. Student policies regarding attendance, make-up work, and chronic absenteeism will be in place during Homeschool Learning.

Student grading policies will remain the same as the pre-pandemic policies. [Click here to access the GDPST Student Policy Manual.](#)

Students participating in Homeschool Learning will have a Student Learning Plan (SLP) that clearly outlines expectations for learning and offerings for additional support. Students will set learning and school life goals with their advisory teachers. There will be an opportunity to reflect on these plans throughout the semester in advisory class. If a student moves from one learning scenario to another (e.g., Homeschool to In-Person), the SLP will be revisited and adjusted as needed.

EXTRA CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

ATHLETICS

Athletics are an important part of our extra-curricular programming. As with academics, the health and safety of students are the top priority. The COVID-19 phases, determined by the local health department and city government, will drive the decisions we make regarding practices and competitions for student athletes. We will follow the guidelines set forth by Tennessee Secondary Schools Athletic Association, TSSAA, and schedule games and activities accordingly. [Click here to access the TSSAA website.](#)

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

GDPST's After School Program (ASP) will provide virtual programming until it is safe to resume in-person activities. ASP will consist of academic support and enrichment opportunities. The program will be offered at all school sites and is open to any GDPST student. We will use several different platforms to engage with the students such as Google Classroom, Zoom, and school site Facebook Pages.

Academic support will be provided by certified teachers from GDPST.

Academic Enrichment Course assignments will be posted on the different platforms Monday through Thursday, with Fridays being labeled as "Challenge Day." The Friday activities will acknowledge student participation during the week, providing certificates and awards for those who meet the attendance goals. Enrichment course supplies will be available for students to pick up from their school site to use during the sessions.

Some of the enrichment courses that will be offered include: Yoga from Uplift Motion, Cosmetology, Fitness, Cooking, STEM from University of Memphis and Code Crew.

The ASP will also provide several virtual family engagement options from our community partnerships including Amazon, FedEx, Memphis Police Department, Step Ahead Foundation, and Starbucks.

Registration for the ASP will open in August.

COUNSELING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

GDPST campuses enjoy a number of community partnerships, including: Agape North, ALSAC, Communities in Schools, Heal 901, Leadership Memphis and Youth Villages. We are actively working with partners to provide virtual services until Memphis returns to pre-pandemic operations.



SAFETY MEASURES

COVID TESTING

GDPST will neither administer nor require COVID-19 tests for students or staff. Each individual in our community plays an important role in maintaining a safe environment. Therefore we are encouraging individuals to do the following:

- If you feel ill, stay home.
- If possible, conduct temperature checks before leaving home each morning.
- Follow local guidelines for social distancing both in school and in the community.

If you believe you have been exposed to the virus or you exhibit symptoms consistent with the virus, please schedule an appointment for free testing. [Click here to find a list of testing sites in Memphis.](#)

COVID SYMPTOMS or CONFIRMED CASES at SCHOOL

Green Dot will follow Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Shelby County Health Department (SCHD) guidance regarding how to respond to people exhibiting COVID symptoms or confirmed cases on our school sites.

- Individuals (students or staff) who exhibit symptoms will be directed to self-isolate at home and seek medical attention.
- Individuals who may have come in close contact with a confirmed case will be directed to self-isolate and self-monitor for potential symptoms.
- Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 MUST wait at least 72 hours after symptoms have ceased AND 10 days since symptoms first appeared before returning to school. Individuals are strongly encouraged to have a negative test before returning to school.

Green Dot will work with the SCHD if there are any suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases at a school site, and one of the following may happen depending on the extent of exposure:

- A cohort or grade level of students may be asked to self-isolate and self-monitor for potential symptoms.
- A campus site may close the building for 24 hours to allow for deep cleaning and disinfection.
- A campus site may close for up to two weeks.

During any periods of closure, the school will implement the Distance Learning model. Student learning will continue during school closures.

COVID COMMUNICATIONS

In the event that a student or adult tests positive, the school will contact the SCHD. The Health Department will contact close contacts (those who spent more than 15 minutes in close proximity to the student) so that they can be quarantined at home. Classmates should be closely monitored for any symptoms. At this time, empiric testing of all students in the class is not recommended; only those who develop symptoms require testing.

GDPST will notify families of the presence of any positive cases in the classroom and/or school to encourage closer observation for any symptoms at home.

SAFETY MEASURES

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Space constraints may not make it possible to allow for six feet of social distancing between individuals at all times. Classrooms will contain distanced desks to the extent that the room size allows.

Schools will offer signage to remind individuals of social distancing expectations.

In cases where adults need close proximity to students, they may wear masks, gloves, and protective covering to protect themselves and students.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

GDPST will make every effort to limit the number of riders on a bus by increasing the number of bus routes offered in the morning and afternoon. Bus route schedules will be posted before the start of the school year. During the registration process, parents are required to sign up for bus service so we can assign students to appropriate bus stops at the designated time. Buses will be cleaned and sanitized daily.

Student bus riders will be required to sit one person per seat and wear a mask at all times. GDPST will have bus monitors to ensure that safety practices are met. Students who do not meet safety expectations may lose their bus privileges.

ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

Each campus will assign students to one of multiple school entrances for morning arrival. Students are expected to be in uniform and wearing a mask at all times on campus. Before entering the building, students will have their temperatures checked. **Students presenting a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher will be sent to an isolation room to await pick up by a parent or guardian.**

Upon entrance into the building, students will report immediately to their advisory classrooms. Breakfast will be available to students in advisory.

We ask that students do not arrive more than 30 minutes before the start of the school day.

LOCKERS

Lockers will not be used until schools return to normal operations. For safety reasons, students are expected to use a clear backpack for school materials. The school will offer backpacks as a part of the uniform.

MOVEMENT DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Each school has created a supervision plan that clearly delineates traffic patterns for hallway movement between classes, when a student needs to use a restroom, or on occasions when a student may need to leave class for other important reasons.

Additionally, schools have redesigned Emergency Preparedness Plans to safely account for social distancing in case there is a need for school evacuation or lock-down.

SAFETY MEASURES

WATER FOUNTAINS

Water fountains will be disabled until schools return to normal operations. Schools will provide one time use cups or water bottles for hydration.

SCHOOL MEALS

Students will enjoy school meals with their designated cohort. School meals will primarily be served as grab-and-go meals.

DISMISSAL

Students will be dismissed from school in a staggered routine. Students will exit from the same entrance assigned for arrival. Students are required to wear masks at all times while on campus. Students not engaged in an approved after-school activity must leave campus immediately.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

The following personal protective equipment will be available and required on each campus:

- **Face Masks:** All individuals in the building must wear masks at all times. Students will be provided with masks and replacements as needed.
- **Sanitizer and Wipes:** Stations with sanitizer and sanitizing wipes will be available throughout the school building.
- **Disposable Gloves:** Staff members will have ready access to disposable gloves when glove usage is appropriate.
- **Thermometers:** The school will have multiple thermometers and kiosks on campus to ensure that everyone completes a temperature check before entering the building. Adults with a temperature above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit will not be allowed to enter the building.

NURSES

The pandemic has created a significant shortage, however, we are working to ensure that a school nurse will be available to each campus full-time.

SCHOOL CLEANING

Schools will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized on a daily basis, using a combination of disinfectant materials and electrostatic spray. In mixed traffic areas, schools will be cleaned at least twice daily.

VISITORS

Visitor access into school buildings will be limited to ensure the safety of students and staff. Visitors (including parents and community partners) are encouraged to meet with school teams virtually. Additionally, parents and visitors should wait for students during pick up in the safety of their vehicle.

When it is necessary to enter a school building, all visitors must pass a temperature check and must be properly wearing a mask at all times.

TRAINING

FAMILY TRAINING

On August 3, 2020, GDPST will roll out a series of trainings to prepare families to support distance learning and to share changes to school policies and practices as a result of the pandemic. To accommodate family schedules, trainings will be offered virtually and recorded. Additionally, one-page “how to” guides will be provided. These resources will be posted to the Green Dot Public Schools website.

GDPST STAFF TRAINING

Green Dot teachers, counselors, and classified staff will return on July 20, 2020 for 10 full professional development days. Training topics will focus on the following: how to deliver quality lessons virtually; how to ensure that special populations (English Language Learners and Special Education students) receive appropriate supports; how to address the social emotional needs of students during the pandemic; and, how to maintain a safe environment upon return to school.

STUDENT TRAINING

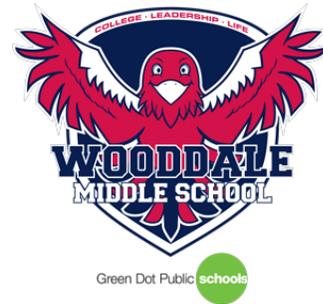
Advisory courses will carve out time to ensure that students are well equipped to use the learning platforms offered. In addition, a series of trainings and how-to guides will be available to students through Google Classroom and on the Green Dot website.



STAY INFORMED

Updates will be provided regularly on our social media. Please like your school's Facebook page to ensure that you are receiving the most up-to-date plans for 2020-2021.

Green Dot Public Schools Tennessee:



For questions related to the 2020-2021 School Year, please email GDPSTreentry@greendot.org.

