



# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

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2023-PIO-0070

**December 4, 2023  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **GDOE, George Washington High School Safety Protocol**

Tiyan, Guam – George Washington High School (GWHS) is reinforcing a **“Closed Campus” policy starting from Wednesday, December 6, 2023**, with the support of the Guam Department of Education (GDOE). This means that the school gates will be secured during specific hours to achieve two objectives: protecting the well-being of our school community and optimizing instructional time, which is essential.

Superintendent K. Erik Swanson, said, *“We are dedicated to helping the school implement the policy to improve the processes for verifying student’s attendance and punctuality; as well as the safety of our students and school community. We acknowledge the work of the Geckos.”*

Dexter Fullo, the principal of GWHS, announced that the "Closed Campus" policy will be enforced to align with the school's mission and vision of preparing students for life. He said that this policy will help students develop soft skills such as punctuality and attendance, which are essential for their future success. He also explained that this policy will improve the learning environment at GWHS and prevent any potential problems.

To this end, the following will take place:

#### **MORNING:**

1. Car rider gate will close at 7:10am. The warning bell rings at 7:10am, and students should be in classes by 7:15am
2. Car riders who come after the back-gate closes will have to be dropped at the main gate, and parents/students will have to sign in with staff member on duty. Those with frequent unexcused tardiness will be subject to parent contact and/or conference AND will serve instructional time lost with time in detention.

Reminder: One of the conditions for approved Out of District (OOD) students is the prompt arrival to school. Approved OOD students who incur frequent tardiness will be subject to removal.

3. Walkers will also have to sign in with the staff member when entering campus after 7:10am. Those with habitual unexcused tardiness will be subject to parent contact and/or conference AND, depending on personnel availability, will have to serve instructional time lost with time in detention. For example, if students are 15 minutes late, they will be expected to spend 15 minutes in detention.
4. Note that athletes and club/council members are held to an even higher expectation. If patterns of unexcused tardiness are observed or reported, in addition to parent contact and/or conference AND the serving of time lost with time in detention, the student’s extracurricular involvement may be affected.



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### **THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL DAY**

1. Unless requested by an authorized adult, only those students with passes to leave campus shall be permitted to leave. Passes include unscheduled passes whereby students may leave campus when they do not have a scheduled class. This pertains to seniors only. Other passes include GCC IDs to be presented to GWHS personnel upon admittance back onto the GWHS campus, or departure to GCC campus.
2. Students who are not in their classrooms must have a pass in the hallways issued by your teacher. Students without passes will be considered skipping and will face appropriate consequences.
3. Students who use the designated parking lot must sign in at the front gate before going to their cars. It is encouraged that you keep the travel to your cars at a minimum and that you take your belongings with you.
4. Those who leave campus without permission are committing a Level 3 offense which according to our ODR, incurs the highest level of consequence. This includes:
  - a. Showing GCC badges/schedules to school personnel that is owned by someone else.
  - b. Getting into another student's vehicle – whether discreetly or not – and leaving without written expressed permission from parents/guardians and school authority.
  - c. Leaving with another adult or driver without the permission and approval of parents/guardians, and school authority.

### **AFTER SCHOOL HOURS:**

1. The back gate for car riders will close promptly at 2:30pm.
2. The front gate will close by 3:00pm. All students must vacate the premises unless supervised by advisor or coach for purposes of an extra-curricular activities such (ROTC, Interscholastic Sports practice, or approved club/organization event). In such cases, students are expected to report directly to their place of meeting whether it be an assigned classroom or practice area.

NOTE: Afterschool Strength and Conditioning is no longer available; therefore, there shall be NO STUDENTS utilizing the weight room or playing in the back courts, unless a part of an interscholastic sports team AND under the supervision of their respective coach.

3. For those who have reason to be on campus after the main gate closure (for practice or extra-curricular-related activity) – must enter through the UOG/Bus Gate. This will remain the single point of entry and exit after the 3pm close

For further inquiries, parents and guardians can contact (671) 734-2911 or email at [gwhs@gdoe.net](mailto:gwhs@gdoe.net). You may also contact Tes Reyes-Burrier (671) 300-1677 or email at [mtreyes@gdoe.net](mailto:mtreyes@gdoe.net)

**“END OF STATEMENT”**