

**March 30, 2020**

***Dear Parent/Guardian:***

As you are aware, we are currently closed for all students in accordance with Governor Wolf's school closure order. The COVID-19 pandemic-related closure will continue longer than first expected. Moving forward we will be implementing an interim plan to offer continuity of education to our students using alternative means during the period of the school closure. Please be advised that our district's interim plan is to provide virtual enrichment and review opportunities to all students. Enrichment and review for all students shall consist of informal activities to reinforce or extend students' prior learning.

Likewise, please be advised that our interim plan to provide a continuity of education for your child's free appropriate public education ("FAPE") is to do so through a virtual platform in which we offer enrichment and review opportunities related to your child's disability-based educational needs. This plan is consistent with guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Education affording public schools "flexibility" in these unique circumstances and consistent with our district-wide plan to provide enrichment and review as our continuity of education plan. Most importantly, this plan is consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of all students and those individuals providing education, specialized instruction, and related services to these students during the COVID-19 pandemic-related school closure.

The change to a virtual platform alone will make your child's FAPE different, as it will for all student's educational services. Additionally, in order to provide your child a continuity of FAPE through a virtual platform, we may need to initiate temporary, COVID-19 pandemic-related changes to your child's IEP in order to be able to implement the plan in a virtual setting based upon your child's needs as much as possible. By virtual setting, we mean this can include accessing online material and/or contact via a possible variety of telephone, audio, video or other online, virtual means. Please understand there may be limitations we face in trying to do so given the COVID-19 response effects. These changes are temporary. We all look forward to resuming school in person back in our buildings when the COVID-19 pandemic is over and it is safe to do so.

The next steps will include contact from your Director of Special Education or case manager, to relay more details regarding our plan and to engage in a discussion of how your child's FAPE can be provided in a virtual platform to allow for a continuity of education in line with the district-wide plan to provide enrichment and review opportunities during the COVID-19 school closure. We are proud of our professional support personnel. We are confident that they will all work together with you to get your child through this pandemic and all it involves as best as we can in the circumstances.

For more information about your rights as a parent of a child with a disability, view the Notice of Procedural Safeguards on our District's Special Education.

*Sincerely,*

*Tina Antonello-Portee*

*Director of Special Education*