

Dear Parents,

This email outlines important information regarding plans for implementing special education instruction, providing related services and facilitating CSE meetings during this long term school closure. Our district is in the process of coordinating a schedule for distance learning with a myriad of stakeholders. We appreciate everyone's flexibility and support throughout these uncharted times.

Facilitation of CSE Meetings

We will attempt to have all CSE meetings take place as previously scheduled. Staff attending the CSE will be utilizing an online platform. Anyone invited will have the opportunity to participate in the meeting via landline, cell phone, desktop or iPad.

An email will be sent from Cisco WebEx, sent at least the day prior to your child's meeting. The invite will provide the details about how to participate.

Special Education Programs

RISE Programs

- Each teacher will create a daily schedule for the class.
- The teacher will reach out to you weekly to discuss modifications and individual students' needs.
- Students will continue to use the same virtual resources they are accustomed to in school in which teachers will provide individualized work, check for mastery and provide feedback. Online resources to be used: Unique, Vizzle, Razz Kids, Kidz A-Z

Other Special Class Programs

- Will run in a manner similar to general education distance learning classes in each building.

Integrated Co-Teach

- The special education teachers will work in close contact with general education teachers to plan lessons that offer appropriate scaffolding and modifications.
- The special education teachers will also provide a regularly scheduled support period using WebEx or other form of communication method to meet with students.

Resource Room

For students at each grade, there will be designated times in your child's schedule to meet with their Resource Room teacher who will support their IEP goals. This will be accomplished via WebEx or another form of communication, email, support materials, and work sent back and forth between the Resource Room teacher and the student.

CT Lab

Your child's schedule will include a designated time to meet with their CT lab teacher(s) using Google Meet/WebEx or other telecommunication means. Teachers will also provide modified materials to support students in accessing the curriculum.

Related Services

Counseling

- All providers will be in contact with the parents and/or guardians of students receiving **mandated counseling services**.
- This contact will be in the form of phone calls, WebEx and/or emails as deemed appropriate. If the counselor and parents agree, staff may communicate directly with the student via phone call. In addition, when appropriate, counseling materials and/or resources will be provided to you. The frequency of communication will be determined by individual students' needs.

Occupational or Physical Therapy Services

All providers will be in contact with the parents and/or guardians of students receiving **mandated OT and PT services**.

- Materials and/or resources will be provided by therapists. The frequency of consultation will be determined by individual students' needs
- Students will have an opportunity to receive feedback on their work and progress.
- The frequency of communication will be determined on a case by case basis.

Speech Services

- All providers will be in contact with the parents and/or guardians of students receiving **mandated pull out speech services**.
- Speech services will be offered virtually at scheduled times. The speech therapist will contact you regarding this schedule. This may be modified to meet each individual student's needs.
- **Speech Collaboration**
- Speech therapists will be providing support during the virtual instruction offered for all students. In some cases, a separate support period may be offered as well.
- Communication with your child's speech therapist will be maintained as needed through email correspondence during this time.

Vision and Hearing Services

- Provider will be in contact with all parents to make arrangements.

Mandated Reading Services (grades 3-7)

Students will have the opportunity to meet with their reading/special education teacher on a regularly scheduled basis. Reading instruction will be a combination of video lessons, computer-based programs, and independent assignments. This combination will provide students with structured literacy support.

Out of District Programs:

- All BOCES and private programs are reaching out to families to share their unique learning plans as they are developed. Please understand that timelines and plans may vary from program to program.
- If you have concerns, please contact your child's teacher or the PPS office via email.

This is an unprecedented time. I am committed to serve parents of children with special needs who have unique hurdles and concerns. We have planned thoughtfully how to best serve all students and these plans may evolve over upcoming days and weeks. The key ingredient to making this work, as always, will be teamwork.

