



JENNIFER C. TRUSLOW, DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

TEL 781-786-5240 | FAX 781-786-5249

---

March 17, 2020

Dear Weston Families/Guardians,

I hope this communication finds you and your families healthy. As you know, as required by Governor Baker, to slow the potential rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus, Weston Public Schools has closed all schools for an extended period of time. These are extraordinary times, and information and guidance from local, state and federal authorities has resulted in decisions and actions that need to be nimble to adapt to the quickly changing environment. At this time, the following district guidelines are in effect:

**Special Education and Related Services:**

As Weston begins its *School from Home* Program on March 19, 2020, Special Education teachers and related services staff will be reaching out to you about plans for your student. Through the use of technologies such as Seesaw, Google Classroom, Google meeting, etc. Weston is providing opportunities to engage in learning activities to maintain continuity of learning. During this *School from Home* program, Special Education staff will be working with general education teachers to support learning in a variety of ways. They will be available to students for questions, clarification, problem solving, and discussions via email or Google meetings. Special Education Staff will be working to modify, scaffold, provide supplemental tools, and differentiated activities for students so they are able to access learning. Counselors will be available to students to communicate in Google chats or via email. They will also check in regularly. These practices will assist with re-entry to school, continued connectedness to learning, and maintaining continuity of learning so our students have the opportunity to experience education.

**Annual Reviews/Evaluations in Process:**

Weston Public Schools, along with other districts in the Commonwealth, will freeze evaluation and annual review timelines for all students on IEPs and 504s while schools are closed. This means that as soon as schools open for students again, the timelines will commence as is required by state and federal guidelines. Additionally, at that time, we will be working with families to understand the impact of the closure on students. The district will also be reviewing the possibility of holding annual IEP and 504 meetings remotely. Further information about this will follow.

**Out of District Students/Transportation:**

Special Education day and residential schools are exempt from the Governor's order to close. They will be making their own decisions moving forward. We will support student attendance at

their programs as long as they remain open. Our transportation companies have indicated they will continue to transport students to out of district schools that remain open. If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Smith-Michaels or our office directly.

**Counseling/Resources:**

We recognize that this is a stressful time for many students and families. If your child receives counseling services as part of an IEP, you can expect that you will hear from the person providing those services in the next week or so. While we will not be able to provide the same kind of service as regularly available in the school setting, you can expect that the counselor will engage in regular check ins with you and your child, as appropriate. In addition, counselors are currently compiling a list of readily available resources to use at your discretion at home. If you have more concerns about your child, you should contact the school counselor who will help troubleshoot with you. As always, if your child is having an emergency or you find yourself in a crisis situation, you should call 911 or visit your local emergency room.

We are in constant communication with our liaisons at the local, state and federal level. We will communicate updates as a district and department as often as we can. Please do not hesitate to contact our office at the number listed above if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

***Jennifer C. Truslow***

Jennifer C. Truslow  
Director of Student Services  
Weston Public Schools  
89 Wellesley Street  
Weston, MA 02493