

Student Support Services Minnetonka Public Schools



Dear Parents and Guardians of Students receiving Special Education,

Please know we are thinking about you and your children while we actively plan for e-learning and support. We are asking all special education teachers to connect with you by this Friday (March 20) via email or phone to touch base and let you know their plans, thus far. We have also asked that they connect with you again by the end of March (March 27) with their final plans for e-learning implementation, which will begin after Spring Break (April 6).

We will work closely with you to review distance-learning and the impact on the delivery of special education and related services. Additionally, our special educators are working closely with your child's general education teachers to support your child's learning within their general education coursework as well as to schedule direct instruction to meet IEP service minutes.

Please note, if a school closure causes educational services for all students to pause within a school or district, then the school/district is not required to provide services to students eligible for special education services during that same period of time. However, with this, we want to assure you that we are actively planning our outreach and lesson delivery for our students and plan to maintain, to the best of our ability, your child's services and supports. Our staff go above and beyond on a daily basis and are thoughtfully working through their students' plans and schedules.

If at any time you have questions about your child's plans and programming as we go forward, please reach out to your case manager, your building principal, and/or our leadership team.

Our special education leadership team will continue working closely with all staff to best meet your child's needs. We will continue to monitor guidance from our leaders at the state level, as well as our US Department of Education and Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services. As a leadership team, we will continue to update parents and staff with any new information.

<https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/health/covid19/>

<https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/health/covid19/MDE032087>

<https://www.ed.gov/coronavirus?src=feature>

We also know that students may experience anxiety during this time. Attached are a few resources for parent support.

[https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-\(coronavirus\)-a-parent-resource](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource)

<https://www.tapinto.net/categories/guest-column/articles/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-coronavirus-2>

We value you as our parent partners and plan to work close and collaboratively with you on special education services.

Please take care!

Sincerely,

Annie, Angie, Christine, Kristin, Mandy, and Michelle

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