

# STONINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

40 FIELD STREET, PAWCATUCK, CT 06379

PHONE: (860) 572-0506

Fax: (860) 572-8155



BOARD OF EDUCATION: Alexa J. Garvey, Chair; Candace Anderson, Secretary

SUPERINTENDENT  
Van W. Riley, Ph.D.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT  
Mary Anne Butler

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES  
Allison Van Etten

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE  
Gary J. Shettle

## Special Education/504 Group Video Conferencing

March 25, 2020

Dear Parents:

During the period of school closure, the Stonington Public Schools **may** be implementing your child's special education and/or related services (psychology, speech pathology, OT/PT) through group video conferencing using Google Meet.

These services may be provided in a group setting with multiple students participating in the video conference. In the majority of instances, the small group will be an existing cohort of students, that your child is already accustomed to working with. Student names and video images will be visible to the teacher/related services provider and other participating students. **Parents are encouraged to have their students participate via a location that is quiet and free of distraction, to the extent possible. Other individuals in the home are not permitted to participate in or be visible on the video conference, or otherwise observe the lesson, other than reasonable adult supervision of the student. The use of headphones or earbuds of any kind are strongly suggested for student use. Parents and students are prohibited from recording video conferencing sessions.** All individuals shall comply with relevant Board of Education policies, including but not limited to those concerning the confidentiality of student records and acceptable use of district computer systems. These policies can be accessed at [StoningtonSchools.org](http://StoningtonSchools.org), under the "Board of Ed" tab.

Student privacy and the confidentiality of student information is of utmost importance. Parents are reminded, however, that the District is not in direct control of individual homes or physical locations of participating students.

If you **do not wish** for your child to participate, please send an email to Linda Kuja, Special Services Secretary, with the name of your child, and a statement that you wish to "opt out" your child from video conferencing. Linda can be reached at [Linda.Kuja@stoningtonschools.org](mailto:Linda.Kuja@stoningtonschools.org) .

**Please note that these, direct teacher-led, special education and/or related services will not be delivered in any other manner during the period of school closure.**

Sincerely,

Allison Van Etten  
Director of Special Services