



Lodi Unified School District
Special Education
1305 E. Vine Street
Lodi, California 95240
Lodi (209) 331-7080
Fax (209) 331-7084

March 30, 2020

Via Regular U.S. Mail and E-Mail

Re: Prior Written Notice regarding Special Education Services during School Closure

Dear Parent(s)/Guardians:

I am writing to address the current situation within the Lodi Unified School District ("District") due to COVID-19. Along with student learning, student health and safety are top priorities for our District. This letter is meant to serve as notice regarding the school closure ordered by District and is provided in accordance with Title 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 300.503.

Description and Explanation of the Actions Proposed or Refused by District

In the wake of the COVID-19 crisis, the District is taking all necessary precautions not to spread the virus. As you have likely heard, the District closed its schools, effective March 23, 2020. We anticipate that schools will re-open on April 17, 2020, although that is dependent on a rapidly developing and changing situation. Please continue to monitor all communications from our Superintendent, Dr. Cathy Washer.

We know that school closure is concerning, especially for our students with exceptional needs, and want to ensure you that we have your child's education and safety at the forefront of all decisions being made and actions being taken.

During this time the District will be providing Activities and Resources, available to all students. The District anticipates it will have Distance Learning up and running soon, and available to students. Additionally, and during closures, the District will be providing a version of the following, depending on student need, to support students in special education during this period:

1. Internet-based curriculum, links, and videos within Google Classroom.
2. Sending home packets or paper copies of assignments.
3. Sending lists of work to be completed at home.

4. Access to audio-learning at home.
5. Virtual office hours, scheduled virtual appointments, and/or instructional phone conferences for the provision of specialized academic supports.
6. Collaboration with general education teachers regarding appropriate accommodations and supports for students within the general education virtual classes.
7. Consultation regarding appropriate technology supports to assist students in accessing on-line curriculum.

We acknowledge the impact of this and the additional challenges it creates and regret the need to make this decision in the wake of this pandemic.

We will be in touch to discuss more specific services and consultation to you in the coming weeks.

Evaluation procedures, assessments, records and/or reports used as a basis for the District's proposed and/or refused actions, Description of Options Considered by the District, and Description of Other Information Relevant to the District's Decision

The school closure has been ordered based on the COVID-19 pandemic, health and safety concerns, and necessity given the District's need to provide a safe learning environment for students and a safe working environment for staff. It is this necessity at the basis of the very serious decision to temporarily close our schools. Due to this necessity, and taking into account all of the District's legal obligations, we do not believe there are other viable options available at this point in time.

When schools re-open for instruction, District staff will closely monitor your child's skills and performance, to confirm whether or not there are any concerns with educational progress or regression due to the school closure. If there are any such concerns, District staff will notify you, and if necessary, will convene an IEP meeting to discuss your child's individual needs.

Notice of Parental Rights, Procedural Safeguards, and Resources

The District acknowledges your right to make informed decisions regarding your child's education. Accordingly, I have enclosed with this letter a copy of the rights and procedural safeguards under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA"). The District takes these rights seriously, so please feel free to contact my office if you would like to schedule a time to meet with me to address any concerns you may have regarding this letter. You may also contact the following agencies to obtain assistance in understanding your parental rights:

California Department of Education
1430 N Street, Suite 2401
Sacramento, CA 95814-5901

Lodi Area SELPA
Jonathan Martin
1305 E. Vine Street
Lodi, CA. 95240

As updates are made available to the District, we will stay in communication with you as promptly as possible.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Martin
Administrative Director of Student Services/SELPA
Lodi Unified School District

Enclosures: Parent Procedural Rights