

Troy School District Extended Learning Plan Special Education Update

## Dear Families,

We hope this email finds you and your family healthy and safe at home. As we continue to adapt to state guidelines for social distancing and shelter in place, we understand and share in the additional stress this causes everyone. We want to acknowledge that working from home while "homeschooling" and caring for children is TOUGH. We feel for all of you and realize that many of you have lost access to people who play an important role in your children's lives, such as respite, outside therapies and simple visits with other family members or friends. We know that the most important job you have as parents right now is making sure your children are feeling safe and loved.

Recently you received a district communication regarding the Extended Learning plan moving forward. Today we wanted to share with you what you can expect. Early On through Elementary will begin new learning on Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, Secondary through Post-High students will begin on Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. We want you to know that our teachers and ancillary staff are dedicated to finding new and creative ways to collaborate and engage our learners. With the new plan you will see:

## PARENTS CAN EXPECT

- Structure with a daily plan of learning engagement and forward progression with the curriculum in both general and special education.
- Frequent check-ins or lesson delivery from teachers and ancillary staff utilizing video conferencing platforms such as Zoom or Google Classroom<sup>1</sup>
- Staff will provide group learning opportunities/ lessons with a focus on Goals and Objectives to the best of our abilities.
- Standing office hours for teachers and ancillary staff to assist in supporting both you and your child.

It is our goal to do what is best for our students and families during this time. We want to ensure that any activities, resources, and materials we share with you are accessible, appropriate, and reasonable for use at home. If you have concerns regarding accessibility, please let your primary case manager know and we will work collaboratively to provide alternatives.

We will continue to schedule and hold annual IEPs virtually. If you are not comfortable holding your child's IEP virtually, we will make arrangements to schedule the IEP once we return to the school setting.

We want to thank you for your patience as we've worked to adjust to our new reality.

Our staff deeply miss your children and look forward to giving them additional support in the coming months.

Be well,

The Special Education Department

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> If you do not want your student to participate in virtual meetings or online learning activities through a video conferencing platform, please opt out by notifying your child's primary case manager.