## **Pupil Services Parent Newsletter**

August 10, 2020

## **Greetings!**

We are looking forward to making this a great school year for all Olentangy students, including those with IEPs and 504s. Please know that our Pupil Services Team has been working throughout the summer to determine how to best implement IEPs and 504s to be sure everyone's unique needs are met within all of our attendance models.

We realize there are many parent concerns and questions surrounding Back to School. As you probably already know, Olentangy Schools has created a microsite to regularly share information due to the fluidity of COVID-19 - <u>Olentangy Schools</u> <u>Microsite</u>. When visiting the microsite, scroll over the Olentangy logo to have the

following sections appear:

In general, there is a lot of additional information that addresses the commonly asked questions from the community in the above sections. The Pupil Services section of the site provides even more information and may answer your questions specific to IEP's and 504's, including resources such as <u>introducing a face mask</u> to your child with special needs. We encourage you to bring additional questions to our attention via the <u>Feedback Section</u> of the website, which is regularly monitored. Our Pupil Services Administrators will field these questions and continue to diligently ensure students with IEPs and 504s are considered in all district decisions.

Olentangy Schools will begin the 2020-2021 academic year in a Hybrid Attendance Model.

- Your child's Intervention Specialist and/or Related Service Provider(s) will communicate to you when IEP services will be provided (i.e. during the student's in-person school days and/or during their virtual instruction days).
- While general education teachers will not be supporting students at home on their virtual instruction days, special education teachers/related services staff/aides WILL be available to provide direct instruction, academic & behavioral support, and accommodations as needed during virtual instruction days.
- If you have a preference for in-person special education services vs. virtual special education services within the hybrid attendance model, please communicate your preferences to the IEP team. We are not at a point where we can guarantee you will get your choice, but the team certainly would be interested in knowing your preferences.
- The scheduling of special education services is traditionally complex, and the hybrid model will certainly create even more complexities. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to build each student's specific special education support schedule. Much of this student-specific scheduling work will occur between the teacher work days of Aug 17-28.
- Please know that our team is dedicated to ensuring your child's full IEP services and accommodations are provided within the hybrid attendance model. As always, a parent or team member can request an IEP review to discuss services, supports and make any necessary IEP changes.

If you have specific concerns for your student about the coming school year, please reach out to your Intervention Specialist, Building Principal, or your <u>Pupil</u> <u>Services Supervisor</u>.

We welcome your feedback, and will continue to keep you informed via Pupil Services Parent Newsletters and the Pupil Services section of One Olentangy: Back Together 2020 microsite. Please remember that our <u>Parent Mentors</u> are also always available to you as a resource. <u>fran\_gardner@olsd.us</u> (Grades 6-12) and <u>shelly\_frederick@olsd.us</u> (Grades PreK-5).

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