

April 7, 2020

Hello Families,

I hope this note finds you doing as well as can be expected, under such unprecedented circumstances. I know you are getting communication from your child's special educator and I am writing to share some district-wide updates.

By now, you received communication from Dr. Fleishman and your children's school principal about Newton's next phase of [distance learning](#). Further, we understand the stress these uncertain times can cause and offer [family resources](#) with ideas that might be helpful in facilitating activities for children of multiple ages. I have personally found some of the ideas helpful for my own family.

For special education, we are using a service plan to coordinate distance learning for our students with multiple service providers. This allows for more streamlined services and more effective communication with you as the ones shouldering the burden of providing access to the offered education. Each weekly student's plan will be individualized to meet his/her/their needs.

The service plan will include support, services and possibly links to practice work. You can expect to see things such as:

- Email Check-Ins
- Suggested Activities/Activity Packets (online and offline)
- Projects, Video Messages/Posts, Action Planning
- Daily "To Do" lists
- Phone Check-In
- Educational Apps
- Time for consultation
- Instruction & services through individual or group phone or video conference and online platforms.

We hope you find this helpful. As always, if you have any questions about this please reach out to your child's special educator or the special education administrator assigned to your child's school.

Additionally, I meet with the SEPAC Board weekly and they are helpful in keeping me informed about the needs of our families. They hosted a survey which we hope is helpful

in your sharing your thoughts and needs. In the coming week, we will explore the IEP meeting process and soon I will share an additional update on that topic.

I found this little Dr. Seuss poem and think it speaks to how we are all feeling. Your child's teachers miss them terribly and we so wish we could be beyond this situation and return to a time that is more predictable. Until then, we are in this together so let us know if you need anything as we will do our best to help.

Warmest regards,
Beth Fitzmaurice

