



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

260 Madison Oak Park Illinois 60302 ph: 708.524.3000 fax: 708.524.3019 www.op97.org

March 31, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

During Remote Learning Days, beginning on March 31, 2020, and continuing through the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, our teachers and related service staff will be providing various web-based opportunities to our students, including students eligible for special education and related services under the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (“IDEA”). These web-based opportunities will be provided through virtual platforms such as [i.e. Google Hangout Meets, Zoom] and may include individual or group instructional, educational and/or related service sessions via live stream video conferencing.

Please be aware that the use of third-party virtual platforms creates potential privacy risks, such as risks related to encryption reliability, unauthorized access, data breaches and/or student access to non-school sponsored content. In addition, depending on the virtual platform used, the platform may use, maintain and/or disclose information gathered in connection with virtual sessions for its own purposes, including purposes related to product development and/or marketing. While these privacy risks do exist, our staff are taking reasonable measures to ensure confidentiality and security of information exchanged while supporting students through these virtual platforms.

School staff will communicate with you as to when videoconferencing activities and opportunities will be available for your student – either for individual or group instruction. On your end, if your student is participating in a group instructional or related service session, we ask that you ensure that your student is in a quiet, school-work designated space and/or using headphones, and that your student’s device is non-public facing. We are asking students and parents to maintain information learned about other students in a confidential manner, just as we would expect for our students who participate in group sessions while attending school. No group session may be recorded by students or parents in any manner.

We appreciate your continued partnership and flexibility during these exceptional circumstances. If you have any questions regarding virtual platforms or the District’s use of videoconferencing to provide educational activities and opportunities, or concerns related to your student’s participation in virtual educational activities and opportunities, please email me at marensdorff@op97.org.

Sincerely,

Michael Arensdorff
Senior Director of Technology
marensdorff@op97.org