BPS 101 BATAVIA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 101

ALWAYS LEARNING, ALWAYS GROWING

April 8, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of the Student Services Department, we hope that you and your family are doing well during this public health emergency. As schools, students, families, and communities plan for the extension of the mandatory suspension of in-person instruction (school closure), the School District is committed to providing on-going communication and resources as we sort through this unprecedented situation together. On March 27th, Governor Pritzker announced that beginning March 31st, all Illinois school attendance days would be conducted through remote instructional learning. We know that remote learning will last until at least April 30th. It is the School District's plan to continue to provide your child with a free appropriate public education (FAPE) consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of students with disabilities and those individuals providing special education and related services to students. Please be aware that school closure affects how all special education and related services and supports are provided to students and families.

Remote Online Learning for Special Education Students

During the school closure the School District will continue to provide special education and related services to your child remotely, primarily through online instruction and services and when appropriate, non-technological options. Many disability-related modifications, accommodations and services may be effectively provided through remote online instruction and individual or group special education and/or related services. Instruction and services to students will continue to be provided consistent with a student's IEP. However, please understand that the School District may not be able to provide all services in the same manner they are typically provided. When planning for instruction, teachers will be mindful of the ISBE recommendations of student engagement time. Given the individual needs of students, instructional minutes may vary and in certain situations, the timing of delivery and amount of related service minutes may change based on the individual needs of the student.

Individualized Learning Plan

The District will deliver remote instruction as follows:

Co-taught Services

Special education students who attend general education courses will use the procedures in place for general education students embedded in the district's plan. For co-taught classes, students will receive their accommodations and modifications or other activities. Your child's special education teachers will collaborate with the general education teachers to accommodate and modify lessons/activities/assignments that are pushed out virtually to your child.

Instructional Services and Self Contained Classes

Students receiving special education services in instructional programs and self-contained classes will receive remote learning activities from their special education teacher.

Access to the Special Education Teacher

During remote online instruction, special education teachers will be available by email, Google platforms or phone for questions, technical support and feedback.

Related Service Providers

Related services will continue to be provided consistent with a student's IEP including on an individual basis and in group settings. This may look like activities for your child to complete, videos or websites to interact with or teleservices.

Students with 504 Accommodation Plans

Needed accommodations listed on a student's 504 plan will be offered in the context of Remote Learning, facilitated by the classroom teacher.

Privacy/Confidentiality

During the school closure, the remote online delivery of special education and/or related services to your child will be provided using various District-approved online platforms including, Google platform. The District has confirmed this platform is in compliance with the Illinois School Students Records Act and the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and their supporting regulations which generally protect the disclosure of personally identifiable information from students' education records.

In delivering remote online instruction and/or related services to our special education population, it is the District's intent to maintain your child's privacy and the confidentiality of student record information including when services are being provided in a group setting. However, please note a prominent feature of any of the digital platforms is that students and parents may have the capability to see and hear the other students in these groups at the same time. Therefore, participation in remote online instruction could result in the disclosure of student record information or other confidential information particularly during the provision of special education or related services in a group setting.

Your child's related service provider(s) or case manager/coordinator will be reaching out to you in the near future to communicate and collaborate with you regarding scheduling and delivery of services to your child, and to answer questions you may have. In the meantime, if you have any concerns regarding remote online instruction for your child, including any privacy or confidentiality concerns, or you do not want your child to participate in remote online instruction, please contact your child's service provider directly.

Sincerely,

Kari Ruh

Director of Student Services