



TO: Glenn Maleyko, Ph.D.
FROM: Mike Esseily, Executive Director of Special Populations
DATE: 04/17/2020
SUBJECT: Continuity of Learning Plan Summary- Special Education/504 Plans

Dearborn Public Schools Continuity of Learning plan was developed in response to Governor Whitmer's Stay at Home Executive Order (E2020)-35) which suspended in-person instruction for our students for the remainder of the school year. The plan outlines the steps that district staff are taking to provide and support student learning during the school shutdown. Within the district continuity plan, the multiple needs of learners, including those with IEPs and 504s are considered. The Dearborn Public School District is providing alternative modes of instruction for students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), enabling them to participate in learning and work toward IEP goals. Considerations will be made for each student with an IEP to determine the most appropriate method to provide instruction during the closure.

The Michigan Department of Education released Special Education Guidance on April 10, 2020. Within the guidance MDE encouraged all districts to create contingency plans for students with IEPs during the mandated COVID-19 closure of schools. Contingency plans will be developed with the input of families and caregivers for Dearborn Public Schools students with IEPs.

During the closure of schools, district special education staff will provide the following learning opportunities:

- Contact will be maintained with students and families to support student learning at home
- IEP goals will be addressed to the greatest extent possible through virtual and long distance instruction
- Online instruction and lessons will be provided via iLearn, Google Classroom, Google Meets or other virtual platforms. At-home work packets and/or alternative online resources for home use will be provided as needed.
- Special education teachers and related service providers will collaborate with general education teachers and ensure that students with special needs have access to support and any needed accommodations for assignments, where reasonably feasible.
- Related services, such as speech, social work, and occupational and physical therapy, will be provided through virtual instruction, phone conferencing, printed resources and other long distance modes of support.
- IEP and 504 meetings will continue to be held via tele-conference.

The Dearborn Schools Special Education Department appreciates the ongoing collaboration with families and we thank you for your support during this unprecedented time.