



WESTPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Westport Families:

First of all, I hope you are all well and practicing appropriate social distancing. Westport Weston Health District Director Mark Cooper said Tuesday, "Residents should assume that everyone has come into contact with COVID-19. Many can have the virus with no symptoms at all." It's important we all do what we can to mitigate the spread of this virus.

As you know, Westport has begun implementing distance-learning plans for all students PreK-12. School teams are evaluating how the plans are working and will make adjustments as appropriate. In addition, special education administrators have created a distance learning plan for students receiving special education and related services. You can access that plan in the "Coronavirus (COVID – 19) Update" tab on the district website.

Special education teachers are working with classroom teachers to adapt learning materials appropriate for their students. Where appropriate, special education and related services staff are also creating learning materials specific to a student's IEP goals and objectives.

We realize that not all students with disabilities will be able to access the district plan or the PPS (special education and related services) plan exactly as provided. Please be sure to reach out to your child's teacher or related services provider if your child is having difficulty completing the provided learning materials. In addition, staff members will be reaching out to establish connections with students and families. Please contact your child's service providers through email to schedule any phone conversations.

Should there be an impact on your child's progress due to an extended closure of school buildings, Planning and Placement Team meetings will convene on a case-by-case basis once school reopens to consider the need for compensatory services.

As of this moment, we are not convening Planning and Placement Team or 504 meetings through conference calls until we receive further guidance from the Connecticut State Department of Education. I will communicate any updates to our "Distance Learning Plan for PPS" or to any of our plans going forward.

I want to thank all of you for your support as we navigate through these unprecedented times.

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