

## **Stafford Public Schools**

## Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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March 26, 2020

Dear Stafford Public Schools Community,

Consistent with the directive of Governor Lamont and the Commissioner of Education, the Stafford Public Schools has created an Interim Learning Plan (ILP) that will begin on Monday, March 30, 2020. While we understand this is very different from traditional classroom instruction, the ILP will provide continued educational opportunities for students during the extended school closure. Staff have been receiving professional development regarding distance learning and have begun creating their lessons. This letter is meant to provide a general understanding of the ILP, including how the special education staff, related services staff, and academic support staff, will continue to meet the diverse individual needs of our students during this unprecedented time.

The ILP was devised in collaboration with faculty, staff, and administration to best meet the overall needs of the students. As part of the ILP, regardless of grade level, students will have the opportunity to interact with their teachers, paraprofessionals, and support staff through the Google platform. Teachers are working to record and post lessons, and staff will have live "office hour" periods to address and clarify instruction. A new webpage, dedicated to the ILP, has been created and will become live on Friday evening, March 27, 2020. Specific aspects of the ILP look different depending on your student's grade level. Therefore, additional detailed information will be provided by each school, including instructions for accessing the new ILP webpage.

Live sessions/video conferencing will be conducted using Google Meet. Parents and students are reminded to follow the live session/video conferencing protocols outlined below.

- Multiple students will be participating in the video conference and student names and video images will be visible to the teacher and other participating students.
- Parents are encouraged to have their students participate from a location that is quiet and free of distractions.
- Other individuals in the home should not participate in any live session and should not be visible on the video conference, or otherwise observe the lesson, other than to provide reasonable adult supervision of the student.
- Parents and students are <u>prohibited</u> from recording video conferencing sessions. Students in violation will be subject to disciplinary action.

All individuals shall comply with relevant Board of Education policies, including but not limited to those concerning the confidentiality of student records and acceptable use of district computer systems. A complete listing of Board of Education policies may be accessed at <a href="https://www.stafford.k12.ct.us">www.stafford.k12.ct.us</a>, under the Board of Education section of the website. Student privacy and the confidentiality of student information is of utmost

importance. Parents are reminded, however, that the District is not in direct control of individual homes or physical locations of participating students.

## Special Education / Related Service Providers / Academic Support

During the period of school closure, the Stafford Public Schools will be implementing your child's special education, related services, and academic support intervention services, through Google Meet video conferencing. If you do not wish for your child to participate in these small group or individual video conferences, please email your child's case manager or service provider, with a brief note to opt-out. Please note that this portion of special education and/or related services cannot be delivered in any other manner during this period of school closure. The district continues to do everything possible to provide equitable access, special education services, and related services through this plan.

During this time it is important to maintain communication between schools and families. I encourage families to reach out to faculty, staff, and administration should questions arise. I thank everyone for their patience and understanding during these challenging times.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Moccio

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Superintendent of Schools