

March 18, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a decision to close schools. Our special education teachers and related service personnel have been, and will continue to, collaborate with general education teachers to develop learning plans that are appropriate for your child. Below is an overview of what special education instruction may look like for your child:

*Consultant Teacher Direct or Indirect: Your child's special education teacher will collaborate with the general education teacher to develop instructional activities in line with his/her IEP.

* Special Class: Special education teachers will design learning activities for students in special classes. These activities will focus on the standards and essential learning for the class.

* Resource: Teachers will provide materials to support your child's educational needs and IEP goals.

* Related Services: Providers will develop activities for students to participate in while school is closed. These activities will be designed with your child's IEP in mind.

* BOCES Special Education Programs: OCM BOCES administration and staff will be providing information directly to families and students about the ways they will be supporting continued education and services.

Teachers and providers will utilize both online learning (ex. Google Classroom) and paper handouts over the course of the next few weeks. They will be in contact with you regarding their plans but you are also encouraged to reach out to them at any time.

Beginning Monday, March 23rd, all CSE/504 annual review meetings will be done via phone conferences and/or Google Meet. You will be provided additional and specific information if/when your child is scheduled for a meeting.

Any "in progress" evaluations, where consent has been received, will restart as soon as students and teachers are back in school buildings. New requests for evaluations will also restart once school has resumed.

You are welcome to contact me with any questions or concerns. Information is ever-changing at this point - I will continue to contact you through email and postal mail. I will also keep any updates posted on the special education website page as I have them.

Sincerely,

Cristy Bobbett

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