

March 25, 2020

Dear Elk Grove Families of Students with Disabilities,

We write to follow up on our communication from last week concerning our District's decision to close all schools through April 10, 2020. We think of you daily, and understand the significant impact this unprecedented situation is having on your families and your children at this time. We feel the impacts too, and more than ever want to express our appreciation and gratitude for your partnership with us during these challenging times. We are sending this communication, similar to the previous communication, in the nature of a prior written notice pursuant to 34 CFR § 300.503, noting that the current impacts on your child's educational program are the result of state and local mandates issued in response to the current nation-wide COVID-19 pandemic.

We all look forward to the time when we can re-open our schools and continue to implement your child's specific educational program as it existed prior to our school closures. Until that time comes, we want to assure you that the safety and well-being of all of our students and families remain at the forefront of our considerations as we plan for continued student learning through a distance learning platform.

We have been working around the clock to balance the competing interests of continuing student learning while doing our part to prevent the spread of the current international pandemic. While this is a significant challenge for a District of our size, we are making substantial progress and will be ready to begin distance learning for middle and high school students on April 16, and elementary students on April 20. We remain committed to continuing our mission of educating all students, including those with disabilities, with the following three concepts currently at the center of our planning: equity, access, and innovation.

A significant component of our initial work has been to consider how, to the extent feasible under these exceptional circumstances, we can provide our children with special needs equitable access to comparable educational opportunities that are appropriately tailored to meet their needs.

Important information has already been provided to you. The March 23 communication provided startup information related to distance learning. It also included information specific to Google classroom for grades 1-12 and packet materials for PreK and TK students. Next week you will be receiving information specific to:

1. Technology device pick up (Chromebooks and/or your child's individual support device)
2. Special Education curriculum
3. IEP information

We are planning for students who receive related services (including but not necessarily limited to speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy, behavior support, mental health support, health support, assistive technology and augmentative and alternative communication), to receive such services, supports, and/or consultation virtually to the extent feasible. For the time

being, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no direct in-person contact with teachers or providers, or home-based services provided. As such, under the current circumstances, there is a good chance that the provision of your child's related services will not exactly match the description in his/her current IEP.

Staff will begin reaching out to families next week. We realize the impact of school closures will vary substantially among students, their families, teachers and other staff. As the scope and extent of the pandemic evolves, and new guidance from state and federal authorities is provided, we will plan and adjust, as best we can, to identify options to minimize these impacts for your child and family. To this end, we intend to remain in regular contact with you as the days continue.

Our decisions are being guided by our review and consideration of:

- Recommendations from state and local government officials, including departments of public health;
- Recommendations from the Center for Disease Control ("CDC");
- Recommendations from the California Department of Education ("CDE");
- Recommendations from the United States Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs and Office of Civil Rights ("OCR");
- Information from Parents;
- All other relevant information available to the District.

As parents of a child with a disability, you have certain protections. Procedural safeguards for students with IEPs can be accessed on our website at: <http://blogs.egusd.net/specialed/parent-informationtranslation/parent-rights/>. We are also happy to email or mail you a copy, at your request. If you need assistance in understanding your procedural rights, you may contact your case manager.

While we expect further challenges to arise as we launch a District-wide system of learning and supports that has never in our history been undertaken, we remain encouraged by the dedication, innovation and creativity of our teachers, service providers, and District leadership who remain committed to doing the best we can for all of our students and families. We are especially grateful to you for your commitment to your child's learning, and appreciate your understanding during this unprecedented challenging health crisis and its impact on educational services.

Thank you,

EGUSD Leadership