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Dear Parents,

I hope this letter finds you healthy! I wanted to provide some information regarding the school closure as it relates to special education. Since this is an unprecedented situation, there is no legal guidance specific to the provision of special education services during this time. That being said, the goal of an IEP or 504 is always to ensure the student has equal access to the general education program. This remains true as we provide distance learning beginning March 30th. Your student's intervention specialist will be working the grade level teams to ensure that the supports needed for your student to access the lessons are indeed being provided.

In addition, the intervention specialists will be exploring options on how to deliver lessons and content targeting IEP goals for those students whose goals differ significantly from grade-level standards. This may be in the form of take-home activities or worksheets, online content that the intervention specialist has located that directly correlates to the goals/objectives, instructional phone calls/video chats, recorded lessons, and other creative options. These will be communicated to you by the intervention specialist.

As you have read in Mrs. Hoffman's update, all teachers are expected to be available during school hours for the week of March 30th-April 3rd. This will be true of your student's intervention specialist as well. Please do not hesitate to reach out to them if they can be of any assistance.

In regards to scheduled ETR and IEP meetings: Currently, our plan is to reschedule the ETR and IEP meetings that were originally scheduled during the closure. If you had a meeting scheduled during this time, you have likely already received communication from Mrs. Orecchio to that effect. Meetings scheduled for April 6th and beyond are currently slated to occur as planned. You will be contacted directly if plans change.

I know this can be a scary time. I want to assure you that I have an amazing office staff, a dedicated team of intervention specialists and solid systems in place to ensure we continue to serve our students during this time. Please reach out with any questions or concerns you may have. I will have access to my work phone (including voicemail) and email during these couple weeks.

Your partner in education,

*Michele Peters*

