

April 10, 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

We would like to provide an update to the resources that are available to students with disabilities during the extended school closure. Students with disabilities will be provided with learning opportunities in the same manner as general education students through the Learning in Place Plan and with the introduction of new material. For students receiving services in special education classroom settings where the general education materials are not appropriate, educational materials based on students' academic and functional circumstances have been provided, and are available via email, pick-up or mail. We remain flexible, supportive, and reasonable with the expectations for students during the school closure.

Instructional materials and activities supporting student learning and engagement have been updated and shared on the Learning Support – Special Education Services Learning in Place website (<u>https://www.npsk12.com/Page/15014</u>). Our related service specialists have added resources to support at-home learning. Our teacher specialists continue to offer a "Story of the Day" on Mondays and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and links to story recordings are available.

The division worked diligently with families to hold or reschedule child study, IEP and eligibility meetings via phone or Zoom conference since schools closed temporarily on March 13, 2020. After Spring Break, meetings will no longer be held due to extended school closure, the inability to access critical records required to hold meetings, and the inability to conduct face-to-face evaluations for safety reasons. We look forward to resuming meetings upon the reopening of school.

While meetings will not be held, our teachers are committed to maintaining communication with parents as a top priority. Teachers and specialists are holding daily virtual office hours from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. and will be using multiple modes of communication to reach out and be accessible to parents and students - including phone, email, Class DoJo, Google Classroom, and Zoom. Teachers will also be identifying and analyzing accessible data concerning students' academic and functional performance in preparation for upcoming IEP meetings which will be held after school reopens.

As always, we appreciate your continued partnership and we look forward to seeing our students and families again. In the meantime, please stay safe and know that you are thought about daily.

Respectfully,

Joy (ichardo)

Joy E. Richardson, Ed.D Assistant Director Learning Support – Special Education Services <u>Jrichardson1@nps.k12.va.us</u> 757-628-3950

> Learning Support - Special Education Services 800 East City Hall Avenue • Norfolk, Virginia 23510 phone: (757) 628-3950 • fax: (757) 628-3460