



WEST SENECA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Matthew J. Bystrak
Superintendent of Schools

Jacquie Fowler
Assistant Superintendent of Exceptional Education

Andrew Wnek
Interim Director of Special Education

April 22, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

During this unprecedented time, we hope this letter finds all of you healthy and safe. I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself. I recently joined the West Seneca School Community as the new Assistant Superintendent of Exceptional Education. My role will be to oversee the Special Education and Pupil Services Departments. Our goal will be to continue to support our students and families in various ways so that we may maximize the experiences of all learners and to continue to develop the potential of *all of our students*. I look forward to working with all of you and our staff on behalf of your child.

Given that our school closure continues, as outlined by NYS Governor Cuomo's Executive Order, we are transitioning to incorporate aspects of our Special Education and Pupil Personnel processes. Therefore, our Committee on Special Education (CSE) and Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) meetings will be resuming in the near future. We are in the process of scheduling all of our CPSE and CSE meetings that were previously postponed at the start of our closure.

The Annual Review CPSE & CSE meetings will be scheduled following NYSED guidance and aligned with NYS regulations. However, due to the need for social distancing, all meetings will take place via online video conferencing (Google Meet) or through a telephone conference. You will receive communication from the Office of Special Education and your child's special education teacher or service provider as to the time/day of your child's meeting. We hope that you are able to participate with us during this collaborative process. You will also receive additional information regarding how to participate via Google Meet. Please look for all of this information in an email. If we do not have an email for you, your child's teacher will be contacting you via phone and will provide you with ways to participate via phone. As always, if you have any questions, please contact your child's special education teacher or service provider.

We continue to work collaboratively as an educational team to be responsive to each student's needs. Your child's teacher is able to provide additional support, feedback, and to assist with managing your child's needs, to the extent practicable, as your child engages in the learning process. Please contact your child's special education teacher, related service provider, social worker, school psychologist, counselor, and/or anyone with whom your child works if we can be of further assistance. As was previously outlined during this period of closure, our West Seneca Staff are available to assist as needed, and will continue to be checking in with our students and families on a regular basis.

Again, please do not hesitate to contact us with any needs or concerns that you may have. You may leave a message through the District's main number, 716-677-3619. We will return your call as soon as possible. We thank you for your continued collaboration and understanding during this unprecedented time.

Sincerely,

Jacquie Fowler
Assistant Superintendent of Exceptional Education

Andrew Wnek
Interim Director of Special Education