



Penn-Trafford School District

P.O. Box 530 Harrison City, PA 15636
Phone: 724-744-4496 or 724-744-2121 Fax: 724-744-4016
www.penntrafford.org

*"Effective, Efficient, Quality
Education"*

Matthew F. Harris, D.Ed.
Superintendent

Scott A. Inglese
Assistant Superintendent

Brett N. Lago
Director of Business Affairs/Board Secretary

Gregory N. Karazsia
Director of Student Learning Supports

Dear Parents & Guardians:

As a result of the mandatory school closure due to the threat of COVID-19 and CDC recommendations for the need for social distancing, the Penn-Trafford School District will be providing distance learning to all students beginning March 30, 2020. During this unprecedented national emergency, districts remain responsible to provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to students with disabilities, and the Department of Education clarifies that providing FAPE must be "consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of students with disabilities and those individuals providing special education and related services to students."

The Penn-Trafford School District is committed to working with the parents/guardians of our students to provide an individualized continuity of learning plan through the duration of a school closure. The United States Department of Education has emphasized that federal disability laws allow for flexibility where possible in determining how to meet the individual needs of students with disabilities during this time. Below is an overview of the Penn-Trafford School District's plan to provide services to our special education students.

During the week of March 23rd – 27th, 270 district employees are starting to be trained for 13 hours on Google Certified Educator Level 1. This includes all administrators, school psychologists, teachers, therapists, guidance counselors, and Student Learning Assistants (SLA).

Your student's building Principal sent a letter with expectations on Tuesday, March 24th. Teachers created Google Classrooms and educational instructional packets. On Wednesday, March 25th, the teachers sent an email to students in Grades 3-12 and completed one sample lesson as a practice run. Grades K-2 are doing instructional packets which follow different procedures.

Therapists will be reaching out to those students who receive therapy. Therapy sessions will be scheduled sessions that occur weekly. Therapies will be provided in 1:1 sessions. Therapists will send our virtual links that could provide live therapy or a recorded link. Once the therapy sessions are scheduled, times cannot be changed.

Skills related to the student's IEP goals and objectives will be the focus for students in speech support, learning support, life skills, emotional support, and autism support. Special Education teachers will be contacting parents by Friday, March 27th to discuss concerns, answer questions, discuss the format for their special education support, and how they can support you and your child at home through continuous learning.

If your child is in an out of district placement, the schools will be reaching out to you soon to start distance learning.

If you have any questions or concerns you may email me at karazsiag@penntrafford.org any time.