



# **BOCES Southern Westchester**

## THE BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

CENTER FOR SPECIAL SERVICES  
1606 Old Orchard Street, White Plains, New York 10604  
(914) 948-7271 • fax (914) 761-7598

### **Families and Districts**

We hope all are safe and healthy and managing the ever-changing landscape of our current lives. We miss your children and our wonderful SWBOCES community and look forward to the time when we return to school. In the meantime, our teachers, service providers, and administrators will remain connected to you and students through various methods. Please don't hesitate to reach out if we can be helpful in any way.

SWBOCES online remote learning opportunities continue. Our approach to remote learning reflects our partnership with districts and our ongoing support of students and families. We recognize that these resources cannot replace school nor can they be a substitute for the in-person experiences and interactions that our schools provide. That said, we remain committed to developing the skills and learning of and connection to our students during the COVID-19 outbreak. Our educators and service providers will work in partnership with families to keep our students positively engaged socially, emotionally, and academically.

### **Remote Learning**

The SWBOCES remote learning plans have been thoughtfully developed by teachers and administrators who know our students and know our curricula and will be ongoing as school closures continue to be mandated. The activities do not represent "new required learning" but rather build off what students already know and can do somewhat independently. Activities may reinforce already taught concepts, deepen learning around key content, or allow for important practice of key skills.

### **What will remote learning look like?**

Educators at each level and within each of our school programs have built their remote learning plans using approaches and methods their students already know and, in most cases, have used before.

#### ***Google Classroom and Google Apps. for Education***

In some programs, teachers will share remote learning activities via Google Classroom or through their designated classroom websites. If students do not automatically receive via email a notification of an assignment, as provided in Google Classroom, they should proactively check their teachers' virtual "classrooms." If questions arise, students can email their teachers or use the "comments" feature to communicate with their teachers regarding particular assignments.

#### ***Other Remote Learning Opportunities***

Teachers and service providers will share remote learning activities via Outlook email, virtual calling or video conferencing using platforms such as ZOOM and Google Hangout/Meet. Some families may not have access to these tools, in which case, contact with teachers and providers will be by phone, and materials may be shared in hard copy via US Postal Service.

### **Will CSE meetings continue remotely?**



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Yes. We will be working with districts and families through the approved virtual platforms so that Annual Review meetings can continue on as scheduled.

## **How will related services move forward?**

- For group sessions, only lessons or activities that do not address students' individual personal circumstances will be conducted virtually to ensure confidentiality.
- Any individual sessions conducted virtually will require check-in with districts prior to the first implementation to ensure use of correct platform. (Headphones will be recommended.)
- For OT and PT sessions, providers may model exercises or provide materials for use at home when appropriate. Physical manipulation activities will not be included.
- When necessary, related service providers may reconfigure sessions to provide the requisite amount of time as per IEP.

## **How will students and teachers stay connected while schools are closed?**

Teachers will be regularly engaging with parents/guardians and with students, when appropriate, through emails, teacher websites, Google Classroom and/or other digital platforms.

## **Where can students and parents find the remote learning information?**

SWBOCES will be posting information and resources to the Special Services webpage on our website.