



Office of Student Supports

Supports for Students During COVID-19 Related School Closure

Support for Pocantico Families during School Closure

The physical and emotional well-being of the Pocantico community is a priority during these uncertain times. The Pocantico community is a family and we are all here to support each other. If you or your child is experiencing emotional stress or crisis, please reach out and let us know how we can help.

Dr. Glenn Pollack, Psychologist
(914) 725-7078

Jim McVeigh, Middle School Guidance Counselor
jmcveigh@pocanticohills.org

Sara Sonne, Elementary Guidance Counselor, TSC
ssonne@pocanticohills.org

Mario Suarez, Therapeutic Support Teacher
msuarez@pocanticohills.org

ACTION REQUESTED

Consent to receive email notices during COVID-19 shutdown

Please help support the Office of Student Services continue operations on a virtual platform during the COVID-19 shutdown. All staff are working from home in order to support social distancing. As a result, mailing large amounts of documentation presents a significant challenge. Therefore, the Office of Student Supports would like to move to an exclusively digital format for providing notice during COVID-19 related emergency shutdown. Please support our efforts by completing the consent linked, above.

Services for students with an IEP/504

Our goal is to provide equal access to online/distance learning

- Your child's teacher or service provider will reach out to you via email or phone to give you information on how your child will be supported.
- Possible formats include additional support on the regular Teams website, worksheets, online consults, email check-ins
- Website accessibility: individual needs for adaptations are considered as online platforms evolve.
- If your child is struggling to access the class materials, please contact their provider to discuss additional modifications and supports.
- Take advantage of teacher and provider office hours to check in and get additional support.
- **THE COUNTY HAS SUSPENDED ALL PRESCHOOL/PREKINDERGARTEN CPSE SERVICES UNTIL THE LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY IS LIFTED.**

Meetings

Meetings will resume after 4/1/20

- If the district is open, meetings will take place in person or via telephone as originally scheduled.
- If the district remains closed meetings will take place via [Zoom online conferencing](#). Directions for accessing Zoom will be included in the meeting notice.
- Meeting invitations will be sent out via email with a follow up call to confirm receipt. While the school is closed there will be no support staff in the office to send notices via regular mail.
- **[PLEASE SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS TO PROVIDE YOU WITH ALL REQUIRED NOTICES BY CONSENTING TO EMAIL NOTICES DURING CLOSURE.](#) (CLICK LINK FOR CONSENT FORM)**
- If a meeting is scheduled to occur virtually, you will receive all documents via email before the meeting.
- For questions regarding scheduling, please reach out to Jeannine Harris at (jharris@pocanticohills.org)

Evaluations

Temporary Suspension of Face-to-Face Evaluations

- The US Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights advised that evaluations requiring face to face assessment or observation need to be delayed until school reopens.
- If your child was being assessed prior to the closure of the school, the evaluation process will be delayed until school reopens.
- Once school is back in session, we will use our best efforts to ensure that evaluations occur in a timely manner.
- For questions regarding evaluations, please contact Celia Strino (cstrino@pocanticohills.org)

We are here to help and support. Please reach out with any questions that you have.
Celia Strino, Supervisor of Support Services (cstrino@pocanticohills.org) & Jeannine Harris, Office Assistant (jharris@pocanticohills.org)