

July 23, 2020

Dear Families,

La Grange SD 102 recognizes the difficulties that the pandemic has caused for our families who have students with disabilities. Ever since the pandemic began, we have been working on identifying the best practices for remote and potential in-person learning during our “new normal.” Our efforts have not always resulted in the most effective strategies, but we continue to listen and learn from our families and our staff in order to find a better way forward, to be as creative and responsive as possible while keeping the best interests of our children at the forefront during this worldwide health and safety crisis.

We encourage you to read through the options and to complete the survey as soon as you are able. Once we know the preferences of our families, we can begin to plan for individual students. Creating service delivery schedules for students with special needs is a daunting challenge during typical conditions, so we respectfully request that you please bear with us as we consider how best to meet student needs with a new and unprecedented set of requirements.

The physical and mental health of our students continues to guide us in all of our options and decisions. Our remote learning option will be more robust than it was this past spring, with more frequent and lengthy direct service delivery for students. During our Extended School Year (ESY) program that took place in June and early July, we established consistent expectations for service delivery that provided students with more interaction with their instructors. Our parent survey reflected an overwhelmingly positive response to these expectations for staff and students alike. In-person instruction will focus on essential skill development while keeping health and safety concerns at the forefront.

Each student with an IEP will need to have their services and minutes reviewed in light of the options being offered. IEP’s will be amended to reflect the unique change in circumstances for each individual child. It will take some time for us to address this piece and to ensure that parents and guardians are an integral part of amended plans. Once again, we appreciate your patience and understanding as we complete this necessary step and persist in a forward direction.

If you have questions or concerns about your child’s programming, please do not hesitate to reach out to us through email. We will do our best to respond to you as soon as possible.

Warm regards,

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