



Special Education Parent Advisory Group Meeting

June 29, 2020

WELCOME
AND
THANK YOU

AGENDA

- Updates
- Our Virtual Learning Experience
- Virtual Learning Take- Aways
- How Can We Improve?
- Virtual Learning Tips

UPDATES-RELATED SERVICES

- Congratulations to Mrs. Lisa Willows, our full-time speech therapist, who retired in June! Mrs. Christine Roth who is currently enjoying a maternity leave, has assumed the full-time position. We wish them the best!
- We officially welcome Mrs. Jacqueline Derby who has done an amazing job starting a speech therapy position in the district during our school closure.
- As a result of our closure, we were not permitted to provide related services until April 1, 2020.
- Your case manager or related service provider will be contacting you regarding compensatory services for missed sessions.

UPDATES-EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR

- Extended School Year for those students who are eligible will be held virtually.
- Extended School Year will take place from July 1-31, 2020, Monday through Thursday, (the last week will be Monday through Friday).
- The Extended School Year teachers and related service providers will be contacting you to discuss the delivery of services, including platforms, times, and special considerations.
- Please feel free to provide input to the ESY teachers pertaining to what methods you found beneficial throughout remote learning.
- Please contact us if you need additional technology or materials that we can provide to enhance instruction.

UPDATES-EVALUATIONS/MEETINGS/SERVICES

- For those of you who have children in the midst of an evaluation, thank you for your patience.
- In-person evaluations will resume in July in a socially distant environment.
- All meetings being held in the foreseeable future will be held virtually.
- Mrs. Barron, our guidance counselor, Ms. Brahmi, our school social worker, and Mrs. Rood our school psychologist are continuing to provide counseling and support to students throughout the summer. They can be reached at brigfamilysupport@brigantineschools.org

OUR VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE

- Who knew on March 16, 2020 we would be closing our school for the rest of the year?!
- As a school community, we quickly had to adapt to our new way of delivering instruction.
- As parents, you had to juggle your already busy schedules to further support your children's education.
- It was reported that 78% of our parents shared that they assisted their child throughout remote learning, which meant the establishment of a true partnership.

OUR VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE

- The district conducted surveys at the end of the school year to obtain information regarding remote instruction.
- Surveys were distributed to the staff, parents and students, (Thank you for your participation!).
- The goal of the survey was to gather as much information as possible to inform future instructional decisions, as they pertain to remote learning.
- There were several commonalities I noted when reviewing the responses.

VIRTUAL LEARNING TAKE-AWAYS

Parents/Students

Provide recorded lessons

Parent training on virtual platforms

Zoom meetings with parents

Shared Views

Frequent communication between parents and staff is critical for success

Zoom lessons and Google Classroom were the most preferred method of Instruction

Streamlining the use of virtual platforms would be beneficial

Staff

Update multiple contacts for parents

Teach all virtual platforms that may be utilized to students

Provide a schedule for special area subjects

VIRTUAL LEARNING TAKE-AWAYS

- As we begin planning for our return to school, we must also be prepared for a school closure, which will be part of our re-entry plan.
- Thanks to the input that we have received there are several considerations that we will address as we move forward.

VIRTUAL LEARNING TAKE-AWAYS

Activities that we are considering to strengthen remote learning are:

- Identifying and streamlining our virtual platforms.
- Providing parent training on virtual platforms.
- Providing instruction to our students on virtual platforms when we return to school.
- Ensuring access to technology for all of our students.

VIRTUAL LEARNING TAKE-AWAYS

Activities that we are considering to strengthen remote learning are:

- Incorporating additional small group instruction into virtual learning.
- Providing additional supports within our small groups from our paraprofessionals.
- Preparing and providing materials and activities for our hands-on learners.

HOW CAN WE IMPROVE?

- We would love your input and suggestions regarding improving virtual learning!
- If you would prefer to contact me directly, please call or email.
- Additional trainings and meetings will be held in the summer for updates.

VIRTUAL LEARNING TIPS

Activities that may help you strengthen remote learning at home are:

- Please contact your child's teacher or case manager with any questions or concerns.
- Establishing a learning area with minimal distractions.
- Have learning tools ready prior to engaging in activities.
- Develop a routine that is predicatable.
- Identify a reasonable amount of time for your child to work.

VIRTUAL LEARNING TIPS

- Provide breaks.
- Utilize timers (visual if available) or a bell.
- Use non-verbal reminders, pictures and prompts.
- Welcome the help of siblings.
- Use a daily list and/or a schedule board
- Provide praise often and stay positive!



Thank You for Participating!
Have a Safe and Enjoyable
Summer