



5601 North 16th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85016 • (602) 664-7900 • madisonaz.org

Dr. Kenneth R. Baca
Superintendent

Barbara Marshall
Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services

July 23, 2020

To the families of students receiving Special Education services and Section 504 Plans in our District:

We have been diligently working to develop a plan to support the needs of our students with disabilities. We understand that you are anxious and concerned about what this will mean for your student and we appreciate your understanding and patience, especially given the rate at which changes beyond our control are occurring.

Our District Administration has worked in close collaboration throughout the entire planning process and special education staff have been included in all aspects of this preparation. We propose to provide your student's special education services via distance learning, beginning August 11, 2020. The services your student will receive will be different. Your student will get direct explicit instruction in the areas identified in their current Individualized Education Program "IEP".

Special education students will continue to receive their free and appropriate public education (FAPE) in the same manner as their general education student cohorts will. Special education case managers will be in touch directly to discuss the appropriateness of distance learning for your student. As a team, the appropriate services will be determined and will be offered during the duration of the distance learning.

Any IEP/MET/504 meetings will now be conducted virtually. We will provide you with copies of any draft documents prior to the IEP/MET/504 meeting to ensure you are able to participate.

We also want to reassure you that beginning August 11, 2020, general education teachers are expected to provide instruction and accommodations to the degree possible/appropriate based on individual student plans (IEP/504). Special education teachers and general education teachers are expected to collaborate to ensure access to the content for students with disabilities no matter if services are delivered virtually or in-person. Collaboration between special education teachers and general education teachers are an integral part of your student's IEP and/or 504.

Please know that the health and safety of our students, staff, and families must be prioritized. Everyone is experiencing their own unique challenges. Flexibility and empathy on the part of us



Internationally Accredited through AdvancED

all is essential. On behalf of the Madison Student Services Department, we all sincerely appreciate the understanding and patience of families as we face this new and unprecedented challenge together.

Respectfully,

Abby Wright

Director for Student Services for Madison School District

awright@madisoned.org



Internationally Accredited through AdvancED