



North Attleborough Public Schools
John Woodcock Administration Building
6 Morse Street
North Attleborough, Massachusetts 02760
Office of Student Services
508-643-2160 (phone) 508-643-2162 (fax)

3/30/2020

Dear Families,

In light of the recent news that schools will be closed until May 4, 2020, and with updated student learning expectations issued by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the North Attleborough School Department is continuing to develop and improve Distance/Remote Learning for students. As such, the Office of Student Services is working with the district around the new guidance that creates an expectation that students with disabilities receive FAPE in light of the circumstances during the school closure. It is important to acknowledge that distance learning will be accessed in different ways depending on the needs of each student. While special educators will be working closely with classroom teachers to modify assignments to meet the needs for students with disabilities, it is not feasible to fully implement your child's IEP. It is our goal to provide services remotely to enable students with disabilities to be able to access the meaningful and productive learning opportunities provided, as well as related services. Teachers, counselors, OT, PT, SLPs, BCBAs, paraprofessionals and others have been and will continue in the weeks ahead to make every effort to provide consistent communication from school to home, continue learning and services through a variety of remote resources and support students and families as best as we can while protecting everyone's health and safety.

North Attleborough Public Schools, along with other districts in the Commonwealth, will continue the freeze on evaluation, referral, annual review, and plan distribution timelines for all students on IEPs and 504s. This will enable us to focus our resources on providing services to students. At this time, this means that as soon as schools open again, the timelines will commence as is required by state and federal regulations. As things continue to change rapidly, we will update you if we receive additional guidance from the state.

In the week ahead, you can expect to receive specific details from building principals regarding each school's learning plan and student expectations. You will continue to get regular communication from your child's special education service providers as well. We are looking forward to working with families to support student learning during this period of school closure. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's liaison, Team Chair, or myself at bcerwonka@naschools.net.

Sincerely,
Barbara Cerwonka
Assistant Director of Student Services