



Board of Education

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Superintendent

SVUSD Prior Written Notice regarding School Closure

Distributed via Electronic Mail

April 3, 2020

Re: Extension of Emergency District Closure to Prevent/Contain the Spread of COVID-19
(Coronavirus)

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This letter is written prior notice by the Saddleback Valley Unified School District's ("District"), pursuant to 34 CFR § 300.503, of the closure of your student's school beginning March 16, 2020 and was initially anticipated to re-open on April 13, 2020. At this time, the District has determined that it is necessary to extend the closure of its school(s) to prevent/contain the spread of COVID-19, in consultation with the Center for Disease Control ("CDC"), California Department of Education ("CDE"), and Department of Public Health. The new anticipated return to school will be May 4, 2020.

In making its determination, the District reviewed and considered the following: recommendations from the CDC; recommendations from the CDE; Recommendations from the Department of Public Health; and all other relevant information available to the District.

As previously indicated in a Prior Written Notice dated 3/20/20, during the week of March 16, 2020-March 20, 2020 there was a full emergency school closure with no services or distance learning provided. During the weeks of March 23, 2020- March 27, 2020 and March 30, 2020-April 3, 2020 (10 school day period) distance learning was available for all students, both general education and special education. No site-based, in-home, or direct services were provided to general education or special education students. All students were provided with general curriculum that met grade level/developmental standards. Additionally, those students with IEPs are provided with Emergency Learning Plans (ELPs) based on each student's IEP goals and unique needs. These plans provided distance learning home-based activities to target each student's goals and learning needs. Special Education providers provided consultative services to families. The week of April 6, 2020-April 10, 2020 is the District's regularly scheduled Spring Break. The District is closed during this week and services will not be provided to general education or special education students.

Since the period of school closure is now extended to May 4, 2020, in addition to the District continuing to provide distance learning opportunities to all students, special education services will switch from a primarily consultative model to a primarily direct, distance service model where possible. IEPs services including specialized academic instruction and designated instructional services will be implemented to the maximum extent possible via electronic delivery methods. Providers will be delivering virtual and teletherapy session models with implementation of virtual services beginning on Monday, April 13, 2020 and continuing for the

duration of the closure. Upon return from the COVID-19 school closure, all services will resume in accordance with your student's IEP. The IEP team may reconvene if necessary to determine if student has maintained an adequate level of support or if student may require temporary additional services as a result of the school closure.

The District will be moving forward with virtual meetings for all annual and triennial IEPs. For those annual and triennial meetings that were missed due to the unforeseen school closure, IEP teams will be reaching out to reschedule meetings virtually as expeditiously as possible. Upon re-opening of school sites, the District will work expeditiously process any new requests or additional parent requests for IEPs.

Procedural Safeguards

Please be advised that the parents of a child with a disability have protection under the procedural safeguards of 34 Code of Federal Regulations Section 300.503. In that regard, enclosed please find a PDF copy of procedural safeguards for your review; hard copy available upon request. If you would like help in understanding the procedural safeguards, the following sources are available:

South Orange County Local Plan Area
25631 Peter A. Hartman Way
Mission Viejo, CA 92691

California Department of Education
1430 North Street, Ste. 2401
Sacramento, California 94814

In addition to the statutory rights provided to your child under the IDEA, your child may be entitled to aids and services under the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). Under the ADA the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled that children with communication disabilities are entitled to services that are as effective as services provided to nondisabled students. The aids and services must afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in and enjoy the benefits of a service, program or activity conducted by a public entity.

If you have any questions, please contact SVUSD's special education department at 949/580-3206. For faster response, please email: lori.puchalski@svusd.org.

Sincerely,



Diane Clark
Director, Special Education

Cc: Special Education Administrative Team
District School Psychologists
District Principals

Enc: Procedural Safeguards PDF