



# AMADOR COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Friday, October 30, 2020

**Via Regular U.S. Mail and E-Mail**

Re: Prior Written Notice regarding Special Education Services during School Closure

Dear Parent(s)/Guardians:

I am writing to address the current situation within the Amador County Unified School District (“District”) due to COVID-19. As you know, the District has opened schools for the 2020- 2021 school year in a Distance Learning model. As we have expressed previously, along with student learning, student health and safety are top priorities for our District. This letter is meant to serve as notice regarding the District’s plan to open schools via a hybrid model of Distance Learning and in person in November 2020, as set forth more fully below, and is provided in accordance with Title 34 Code of Federal Regulations, section 300.503.

## **Description and Explanation of the Actions Proposed or Refused by District**

At this time, we are hopeful that schools may reopen on a hybrid model on November 16, 2020. The hybrid model will give students the option to return to physical school sites for two days each week. Students will continue to have the option to remain on a Distance Learning model when the District reopens on a hybrid model. Please continue to monitor all communications from our Superintendent, Dr. Amy Slavensky, for a more definitive date.

As discussed in the August 20, 2020 prior written notice letter, until schools physically re-open for a hybrid model, the District will be providing Distance Learning instruction, available to all students. Additionally, students will be able to stay enrolled in Distance Learning instead of returning for hybrid learning. Finally, students who elect to return to school for hybrid learning will also participate in Distance Learning on the days they do not physically attend school. During the period(s) of Distance Learning, the following will be provided:



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- Student access to internet connectivity and devices to participate in the educational program.
- Quality, challenging content aligned to grade level standards equivalent to in-person instruction.
- Supports to address the needs of students.
- Special education, related services, and accommodations required by an individualized education program.
- Designated and integrated instruction in English language development.
- Daily live interaction with certificated employees and peers.

The above will be offered to all students during Distance Learning. Note that students will still be required to attend classes and complete work at home during Distance Learning.

In the meantime, if you do not have internet connectivity or a device to enable same, please contact Anne Stewart, Administrative Assistant at (209) 257-5308.

In addition, students with IEPs will be receiving related services, consultation, supports, accommodations, and modifications in the same manner, frequency and duration as provided in their last agreed upon and implemented IEP prior to school closures, to the greatest extent possible. The only change is that delivery of such services will occur virtually (via Zoom, telephone, google classroom, email etc.) during Distance Learning. Your service provider(s) will be in contact with you in the upcoming days. Please make sure your contact information is up to date.

I will continue to be in touch regarding services for students with IEPs as needed. You can always reach out to your program manager with any questions.



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***Evaluation procedures, assessments, records and/or reports used as a basis for the District's proposed and/or refused actions, Description of Options Considered by the District, and Description of Other Information Relevant to the District's Decision***

Distance Learning has been ordered based on the COVID-19 pandemic, health and safety concerns, and necessity given the District's need to provide a safe learning environment for students and a safe working environment for staff. It is this necessity at the basis of the very serious decision to temporarily close our schools. As noted above, when safe to do so, the District will be reopening schools for in-person learning.

When schools reopen for instruction, District staff will closely monitor your child's skills and performance, to confirm whether or not there are any concerns with educational progress or regression due to the school closure. If there are any such concerns, District staff will notify you, and if necessary, will convene an IEP meeting to discuss your child's individual needs.

***Notice of Parental Rights, Procedural Safeguards, and Resources***

The District acknowledges your right to make informed decisions regarding your child's education. Accordingly, I have enclosed with this letter a copy of the rights and procedural safeguards under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA"). The District takes these rights seriously, so please feel free to contact my office if you would like to schedule a time to meet with me to address any concerns you may have regarding this letter. You may also contact the following agencies to obtain assistance in understanding your parental rights:

California Department of Education  
1430 N Street, Suite 2401  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5901



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Amador County SELPA  
Kathryn Brown  
217 Rex Avenue  
Jackson, CA. 95642

As updates are made available to the District, we will stay in communication with you as promptly as possible.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Brown  
Director of Special Education  
Amador County Unified School District

Enclosures: Parent Procedural Rights