

## PLAINVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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## Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

I hope this communication finds you well. As you may imagine, the pandemic and subsequent school closures have affected all areas of special education services. The United States Department of Education (USED) has stated, "that during this national emergency school districts must provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of students with disabilities and those individuals providing education, specialized instruction, and related services to these students".

While ensuring the health and safety of students and educators is a priority, it may not be feasible during the current period of school closures to provide all services in the manner they are typically provided pursuant to students' IEPs. The provision of FAPE may include, as appropriate, special education and related services provided remotely through resources and supports (such as strategies, projects and packets provided to students matched with regular and ongoing communication from special education team members) and services and instruction (such as virtual, online, or telephonic instruction).

Our special educators have been working diligently in collaboration with related service providers, general educators and others who support students on IEPs to ensure that recommendations for activities are appropriate and accessible.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, cares or concerns. We are here for you, and we want to support you.

Best Regards,

Cynthia Callow Interim Director of Student Services