The **Mahoning County ESC** team has shown true professionalism, dedication, and commitment during this pandemic. Most recently, we assisted the Mahoning County Health Department by collecting masks and gloves from local districts for donation. And, thanks to Zoom and Google, staff meetings and productivity have not waned. Below are some examples of what we've done, by department, to respond to this pandemic.

Our related service providers in the **Pupil Services Department** began collecting data on students prior to the shutdown, which will provide our districts with an accurate analysis of student gains or losses over the shutdown and make the determination for compensatory education more clear. They created packets of work that will be completed virtually with families over the break and have reached out to each family to establish meeting times that are agreeable to all. Our occupational therapists, speech therapists, and physical therapists have adapted their services so that parents and caregivers can help their children stay strong over the shutdown. We utilize a system (created in-house by our tech department) to collect and report related service data. The system, called Secure Data Entry (SDE), allows us to accurately monitor, bill, and track all related services provided to districts. It is invaluable during this time. Our teachers, preschool through age 22, created lessons for students that can be utilized by families. They audited IEP and ETR due dates to ensure that they maintain federal compliance and schedule virtual support meetings with families who were willing to participate.

Our **Early Childhood Department** has worked to ensure there is no lapse in services for the students they serve. Home Visitors are conducting telehealth visits from their homes. This has been approved by the State of Ohio and will be reimbursed as a home visit. Supervision is being conducted weekly via video conference or phone and staff are maintaining detailed Google calendars. Central Coordination is working from home and operating as typically would at the office using Google phone. The Nurse-Family Partnership program is providing services via telehealth. Families are receiving a home visit through text, phone call or video conferencing. Staff are permitted, at this time, to drop off documents, materials, etc., to the family homes

without making any contact with the family (put on porch, mailbox, etc.) to ensure we are still providing curriculum, assessments and emergency items to families.

Our **Teaching and Learning Department** has curated and distributed resources for teachers and districts to utilize during the forced close. They're currently developing online and paper-pencil units for weeks 4 and beyond in math, ELA, SS and science. These lessons are being developed to ensure that they are easy to understand for parents, engaging for students, and easy to implement for teachers. We're also offering Zoom help sessions by content to provide an overview of units/lessons for families. Our team is preparing to deliver online professional development (PD) virtually for teachers in the Valley for the remainder of the year to ensure that the transition back to the classroom is smooth.

Our two-man **Tech Department** has provided virtual training on Zoom and Google meetings as well as written resources for every interested Valley educator. They also ensured that each staff member at the ESC was properly prepared to work from home. In just a few days, they provided laptops, established VPNs, set-up home-based systems, secured webcams, and made sure staff had access to all necessary cloud-based and office-hosted resources. The tech staff continues to be available throughout the day to provide remote support, training, and guidance for staff on the use of technology equipment and resources.

Mahoning Unlimited Classroom (MUC), an online educational option administered by MCESC, has not only maintained the pace and expectations that were established prior to the shutdown, they have also implemented virtual support labs. Students can attend these learning support labs without leaving home. The MUC staff is also connecting with students throughout the forced close to ensure they stay on top of their coursework.

The **SST 5**, which is located at the Mahoning County Educational Service Center, is continuing support by providing virtual technical assistance with districts and hosting live and recorded webinars to continue professional development.

Our **Council of Governments (COG)** has offered the assistance of our aides to districts for cleaning, to staff for babysitting so they can plan and grade, and to hospitals for babysitting children of those on the front line. Some districts have opted not to pay educational aides; as a result we are assisting them in securing unemployment. Our career counselors are providing support to guidance counselors and principals in their districts by updating their graduation data and supporting students at risk for graduation.

The **Administrative Team** continues to help districts in need. We are working harder and longer than ever to provide continual updates to superintendents, fiscal support to districts (one without a treasurer), and support to district administration regarding special education and curriculum/instruction. We have established a comprehensive COVID-19 page on our website regarding the latest information and resources so that districts can easily access content support, FAQs, legal opinions, considerations for students with special needs, waivers, state

and national education department updates, and health department news. Our next endeavour is to host a virtual catastrophic cost meeting utilizing our SDE (Student Data Entry) system so that districts are able to submit their reports.

I could not be more proud of how we have come together for our students and our districts!