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Office of the Superintendent

MEMORANDUM

To: **PCESC Partner District Superintendents**

From: **Ty Ankrom**

Subject: **PCESC services during the school closure**

Date: **March 26, 2020**

Through these uncharted waters, the Pickaway County ESC is focused on continuing to provide to our partner districts needed services for students to learn, achieve, and sustain quality of life. The staff of the PCESC is pledged to the education of our county's students and to the needs of our partner districts. It is our commitment to continue providing programming and services to your students, families, and districts. Following are ways in which we are offering instruction and support to students and families.

Early Childhood

- Early Intervention
 - Virtual family visits via FaceTime or zoom
 - Documents signed virtually or through USPS
 - Weekly team meetings are being held through Microsoft Office
 - Waiting for guidance from ODH regarding evaluations

- Preschool Disabilities
 - Using technology to send information, sharing video links and activities (virtual field trips), recorded reading of stories
 - Using technology to communicate how parents may access activities that can be done at home.
 - Distributing printed learning and practice packets to homes.
 - Collaborating remotely with preschool teachers to determine how to better meet needs of students and families.
 - Private messaging parents about specific IEP goals and objectives, and the progress being made.
 - Tracking parent communications and recording activities, emails, links sent, time spent

Pickaway Pathways for Success

All students are doing on-line PLATO. Each Pathways teacher has been assigned a group of students to check on through email and/or phone. For the two Pathways students who do not have Internet, several weeks' worth of materials were printed and delivered to the students' homes.

Speech Language Pathology

- SLPs are proceeding with services, according to district guidelines, and will in good faith, provide speech language services by the method best suited to the child/family (tech vs. packet). Being mindful of parent information overload and parent priorities, SLPs will strive to maintain open lines of communication by email/phone/etc. and be accessible to parents.
- Using the ODE's "Considerations for Students with Disabilities During Ohio's Ordered School-Building Closure" document as the guide, SLPs are being careful to consider individual student needs, best practice, and ethical obligations.
- Documenting all services provided that are pursuant to each student's IEP goals/objectives.
- At the end of this pandemic, IEP teams will meet to determine if compensatory services are warranted or if extended school year services are warranted.
- Being in close contact with each parent, parents will be able to reach SLPs without difficulty. However, if district administrators or teachers encounter questions, those questions/concerns can be referred directly to the SLP.
- Timelines as requested by the district:
 - Logan Elm SLPs sent out letters to parents this week with their contact information included.
 - Teays Valley's special education administrator asked that all parent contacts and first materials be sent out by Wednesday, March 25.
 - Circleville was up-and-running on March 23.
 - Westfall set up a Google Classroom this week, for related service providers to use.

Psychology

- To maintain compliance and provide continuing services, re-evaluations are continuing to be conducted via record reviews. Reports will continue to be written and submitted to districts so that information can be entered in EMIS.
- School psychologists are contacting parents for those students referred for an initial evaluation and requesting that parents revoke consent. All required documents will be drafted and provided to parents.
- School psychologists continue to document time spent on evaluation activities through Medicaid billing.
- Meetings will continue to occur via Zoom online conferencing or via telephone conference, per district recommendation.
- School psychologists continue to collaborate with teachers and administrators to assist with providing input for IEPs.

Occupational Therapy

- OT's have created a folder called School Based OT Resources with ideas regarding therapy divided into folders. Activity ideas address many areas and PK-12 activities.
- OT's will contact students via parent/student emails (older grades) and share link. We have also asked parents/students to contact therapists if they would like printed handouts, video ideas, or more specific suggestions.
- OT's should create a Google Voice number for parents to contact.
- OT's will plan on making at least weekly contact with students or more often if parents choose.
- OT's will also be working on documentation, IEP's, and evaluations. We will also be checking our emails during school hours to connect with parents or students.
- OT's will keep a running Google doc about when they contact parents/students.

Behavior Specialist

- Complete assessments that were already in progress
- Interview teachers by phone, email, video conference for assessments
- Collaborate with teachers to work with parent concerns
- Write behavior goals IEPs due this year
- Parent meetings as scheduled
- Complete data charting for the year
- Develop standardized staff trainings
- Write simple behavior plans for parents
- Research and collaborate with each other on peer reviewed articles, podcasts, webinars, etc.
- Collaborating with the Brooks Yates travel team weekly
- Provide contact information so parents may contact directly

Adapted Physical Education

- Collaborating with the Occupational Therapists.
- Communicating with students and families by mail. Suggesting activities that may be done at home.
- Continuing to address IEP goals and objectives.

Online Coursework

- ACE Digital Academy continues to operate on its platform and suite of course offerings

Paraprofessionals

- Available to be assigned to alternate work responsibilities as specified by the districts

Time Sheet Workers

- Available to be assigned to alternate work responsibilities as specified by the districts

