

**Carteret Public Schools
Special Services Department
599 Roosevelt Avenue
Carteret, New Jersey 07008**

**Ms. Susan Cherney
Director of Special and Related Services**

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Dear Families,

I hope this letter find you and your families well. As you are aware, the Carteret School District is closed due to the COVID-19 health emergency. Our teachers have moved to a virtual/remote learning environment which will remain in place until school reopens. The Special Service Department will continue to operate during School closure to provide our students with services outlined in their IEPs to the fullest extent possible.

Special education teachers are providing virtual/remote learning opportunities to our students. If needed, they are working collaboratively with general education classroom teachers to ensure proper accommodations and modifications of assignments. They have been providing individual instruction/supports when needed.

If your child receives related service (speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy, counseling) these services were initially addressed through paper packets that were sent home on the last day school was in session. Materials were provided for 3 weeks of services. The District has been waiting on guidance from the State regarding the provision of related services through virtual platforms. Beginning this week, related services staff will be reaching out to you via email and phone and will be setting up times for related service sessions. These sessions will be provided through parent conferencing, and virtual/remote platforms such as Zoom or Google Meet. For those families that are unable to access this type of service, please reach out to your case manager. If your child receives group services, please understand that it may be accessed by other students, parents/ and or guardians who may be observing the group to assist their student. If you would like to opt out of group services, please let your related staff provider know in writing via email. Please understand that all services are confidential and recording sessions are not allowed.

Your child's case manager will continue to monitor student performance and services, hold IEP meetings and be available for you at all times during school hours. CST email addresses are on the District Website. Any evaluations that require "face to face assessment" will be scheduled once school is back in session.

As this is an unprecedented and unique situation, we appreciate your patience as we work through delivering the education and services appropriate for your child. Your flexibility and understanding is appreciated. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions you may have.

Thank you and be well,

Susan Cherney

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