

## Woburn Public Schools Special Education Office

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April 1, 2020

Dear Families,

I hope that you and your families are healthy and happy during this unprecedented period of school closure due to COVID-19. Our primary focus during this public health crisis has been and continues to be the safety and well-being of our students, families and educators. Our efforts have been focused on meeting critical needs for our families, and ensuring that all families have access to food, technology, and learning resources.

Guidance from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has changed repeatedly, and then finally on March 26, 2020, when it became known that the school closures were to extend beyond the original two week period. Our Special Education department has put together plans to ensure that every child can have remote access to a *Free and Appropriate Public Education* (FAPE) and we expect to have a special education page added to our website over the next week.

Many of you have already had communication from your special education education team, and this communication will continue. Our educators will be utilizing various modalities to connect with and engage every student, and we are working to put together creative learning plans and services that will meet the diverse needs of our students. Your patience is greatly appreciated as we strive to put together a remote model that will allow equitable access, especially to keep students engaged and connected. Please continue to check the Woburn Public Schools website, for updated information. In addition, please check here for grade level Extended Learning Opportunities.

This is an unimaginable situation, and I will do my best to communicate as things evolve. I ask for your patience and flexibility as we work through this incredible challenge together.

Best wishes for good health as we navigate the next few weeks together as a team and community.

Warmly,

Maureen E. Ryan

Maureen E. Ryan, M.Ed.

Director of Special Education