

September 21, 2020

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had an opportunity to enjoy some of the beautiful weather this weekend and partake in activities that allow us to feel a sense of “normal”. This letter is to provide updates regarding programming, as we look forward to having the students back 2 days/week, starting next Monday, September 28th.

During our full remote phase, we made a concerted effort to provide a robust schedule for all students. This meant, 1:1 live sessions with each student, each day from the teacher, 1:1 live sessions from the therapists during the week, live groups sessions, Art, Music and APE, plus other activities. We also offered in-person PT, and just last week, extended in-person OT, Speech and Vision, to any student, whose parents have elected to have their child continue with remote instruction.

**If you have opted for your child to participate in the Hybrid Model:**

As we move to hybrid, the student schedules will look different. The schedules will start to reflect more of what the student’s regular school day includes when physically in the building. Student goals are embedded throughout the school day when we are in the building. During remote, we were unable to do so, given the format. During our hybrid model, we want to give students as much time in-person time with their teacher and therapists as possible.

This includes transition times to and from the school bus or parent vehicle, Activities of Daily Living (ADLs), Independent work, group activities, related therapies, socialization / recess, and lunch. The classroom team will be providing instruction in the classroom and streaming this to those students who are remote. This will be a new experience for us all, so bear with us please!

- Students will receive 1:1 sessions with a teacher 3 days/week (2 days in person and on Weds). During the other virtual instruction days, teachers will live stream groups and send home asynchronous activities for students to be working on. Teachers can also send home hands on materials for students to work on during virtual days.
- Therapists will continue to schedule group and individual therapy time with students to meet the minutes outlined in IEPs.
- If a student were to display behavior or present with a medical situation, the teacher may mute the audio, stop the video and/or adjust the camera, to be respectful of this situation.
- Therapists will adjust their schedules to allow for minimal transitions between the rooms they support. Therapists will follow procedures outlined in the Health and Safety Plan when transitioning between classrooms.
- Specials’ teachers will stay in their rooms and stream activities into each classroom.
- Lunch will take place within the classroom as well. Classroom team members and support staff will be assisting with lunch coverages.
- There will be opportunities for students to go outside and staff will follow the ratio communicated in the Staff and Student COVID-19 Guidelines sent out last week.
- Therapy rooms will be utilized. However, only for 1:1 opportunities and cleaned before and after each use.

**If you have opted for your child to participate in the Virtual Model:**

- Teachers will continue to send home a weekly schedule with links to live group sessions, 1:1 teacher time (3 days/week), Specials, etc. Asynchronous activities will also be given, as well as the option for hands on materials to be sent home.
- Therapists will continue to schedule group and individual therapy time with students to meet the minutes outlined in IEPs.

All staff and students will have their temperature taken as they enter. We have wall mounted temperature scanners and a staff member will be available with a hand held thermometer as well. If you have not yet signed up in Magnus Health, please do so or contact the school nurse if questions.

In the event there is a COVID-19 exposure in your child's classroom or school vehicle, we will notify families via our E2campus alert system and e-mail with the steps being taken. Please ensure that your contact information is up to date in E2campus and with our office staff.

We realize there will be questions and we are looking to schedule another Town Hall for parents in the near future. Hopefully, all goes well, numbers of COVID cases stay low in our areas, and we can move to 5 days a week in person instruction soon!

Thank you,

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