



6001 Locust Lane
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109
Phone: (717) 652-3170
Fax: (717) 652-9326
www.dcts.org

DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

March 19, 2020

Dear Dauphin County Technical School Family:

As you know, the federal, state and local response to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic is rapidly evolving. From an instructional perspective, we have received guidance from several government agencies regarding how schools would be able to provide for continuity of instruction during an extended school closure.

It is critical to understand that students with disabilities **MUST** be provided appropriate support when educational services are provided. The Dauphin County Technical School (DCTS) is examining ways to accomplish this and we are awaiting the outcome of discussions at the state and federal level to determine how this is accomplished.

For these reasons, DCTS will wait to provide instruction to students until we receive clarification relative to providing supports for special learners **OR** until we have had an opportunity to develop a process to do so legally and appropriately. Although the DCTS is not immediately providing educational services, some teachers may provide parents and students with a list of recommended, optional activities and educational resources that parents can use to engage their student(s). It is important to remember that these activities will not be graded and that there is no teacher expectation for students to utilize these resources.

For parents of our students with special needs, we will **NOT** hold IEP meetings for the next few days. After we have determined a process for holding the meetings and completing necessary paperwork appropriately or after we have more direction from the state and federal government as to how to hold the meetings, we will communicate expectations and/or necessary processes.

Moreover, it is important that you know, today the Secretary of Education, Pedro Rivera, **canceled all statewide assessments for the 2019-2020 school year. This cancellation includes the PSSA, PASA, and Keystone Exams.** At this date, there has not been a cancellation for the NOCTI or NIMS assessments.

We appreciate your understanding and flexibility in these unprecedented times. It is important that we proceed in a manner that demonstrates our appreciation for the needs of all our students and the laws that ensure these needs are met.

The Dauphin County Technical School will continue to communicate in a timely manner with parents and teachers during this dynamic situation as we receive updates from state and federal officials.

Stay healthy and be safe,
Karen Pflugh, Ed.D.
Administrative Director