

May 22, 2020

Dear NEC Families;

I hope you are all doing as well as you can during these stressful times! We appreciate all of your collaboration and support as we work together to get through this period of remote learning as best we can! I hope that you are finding some hidden positives amidst all of the challenges!

Those of you with graduating seniors will be hearing soon from Principals about the plans that we are putting in place for remote graduation ceremonies and other special ways to honor our graduates. We are so sad that we can't have our usual celebrations, but we are thinking creatively about how to mark these special occasions.

While I wish I could give you definitive information about our Summer Programs, we are still waiting for final guidance from the Governor and the State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. As of today, we have been told that if in-person summer programming is permitted, it will likely be very limited.

While we wait, we are planning for a variety of options including the possible extension of remote learning through the summer. We are researching all of the available information on how to implement appropriate prevention and infection-control with our special populations (i.e. cleaning protocols, adapting our programming to allow for increased social distancing, whether masks are feasible for our students, and, if not, how to maintain safety). If we are allowed to open, with public health guidelines that are issued in time for us to implement them properly, and a safe way to transport students, we would like to be able to offer some on-site services for at least part of the summer. We know that many of you are eager to have your children back in their structured programming, receiving their needed therapies and supports. However, we need to keep health and safety as our first priority and we need to adhere to the guidance from the State of Massachusetts. *I would strongly recommend that you plan for the probability of summer services being delivered remotely.*

Monday is a holiday so there will be no "instruction." I hope you enjoy the long weekend and are able to get outside to soak up some sunshine! I will be in touch as soon as I have more definitive information to share.

Yours,

Fran Rosenberg