



3-25-2020

RE: Notice of IEP Implementation

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter is a Prior Written Notice from the Arlington Independent School District (the “District”), pursuant to 20 U.S.C. §1415 (b)(3)(B) and (c)(1)(A-F) and Title 34 Code of Federal Regulations (“C.F.R.”) §300.503, regarding the closure of your child’s school beginning on March 16, 2020, until a time it is determined that instruction can safely resume on District campuses.

The District, in keeping with the Governor’s Order of March 19, 2020, determined that it was necessary to close its schools to prevent or contain the spread of the COVID-19 Coronavirus based on consultation with and recommendations from agencies such as the Center for Disease Control, Texas Department of Education, and local government and health agencies.

During the school closures, the District will implement various distance learning strategies to provide instruction and educational services to our students. As a result, your child’s special education program will be provided through a distance learning model using online or virtual instruction, curriculum-based instructional activities, and other approaches. Recommendations from federal and state agencies may affect the District’s ability to provide some direct services to your child during the school closures. Further, it may be impossible to replicate some portions of the IEP in the distance learning environment, such as related services, small group instruction, or inclusion services. The District is working hard to meet all of its students’ needs, but changing circumstances make it difficult to guarantee any specific services during the school closures.

The special education supports and services identified in your student’s IEP will resume full-time when the District re-opens. At that time, the District will contact you to discuss whether an ARD meeting is appropriate and if any compensatory education is indicated.

In making the decision to close schools and move to a distance learning model for instruction, the District reviewed and considered the following:

- Recommendations from local, state and federal public health officials and government agencies; recommendations from the Center for Disease Control; guidance from the U.S. and Texas Departments of Education; order from Governor Greg Abbott to close all Texas schools.

The District considered other options, including but not limited to shortened school days, daily screenings of students and employees, and increased sanitization, but ultimately determined that these other options were insufficient given then need for safety of students and staff at this time.

Finally, please be advised as parents of a child with a disability, you have protections under federal law and state law, as contained in the procedural safeguards set forth in Title 34 CFR §300. Enclosed, you will find a copy of those procedural safeguards. Should you have questions, you may contact the individuals or agencies below to obtain assistance in understanding the provisions of the procedural safeguards:

Region 11 Service Center
1451 S. Cherry Lane
White Settlement, TX 76108

Lora Thurston, Director for Special Education
690 E. Lamar Blvd.
Arlington, TX 76011

Special Education Information Center
1-855-773-3839 (1-855-SPEDTEX)

Partners Resource Network (PRN).
prntexas.org.

Texas Project FIRST (Families Information Resources Support and Training)
texasprojectfirst.org

Thank you for your patience during this national emergency.

Sincerely,

Director, Special Education

Enclosure: Procedural Safeguards