



WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Margaret E. Gragg Education Center
175 Pioneer Trail Boone, NC 28607
(828) 264-7190

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s),

You are receiving this letter because your child currently receives speech language, occupational and/or physical therapy and/or Adapted PE services through Watauga County Schools. Schools are currently closed from Monday, March 16th until further notice. Alternate forms of instruction will begin for all students on Monday, March 23rd. These alternate forms of instruction also apply to the provision of therapy services and Adaptive PE.

Currently there are two options that our therapists and Adapted PE teacher will offer beginning next week. We are seeking your decision on how you would prefer us to proceed in providing services to your child. The three options are described below:

1. Remote Therapy Options: Video based instruction paired with in-home activities or video therapy (teletherapy): These options involve your child's Speech Therapist, Occupational therapist, Physical therapist and/or Adapted PE teacher either providing a video lesson for your child to view and then complete activities related to that lesson or working with child in real time on a digital device (computer or phone). The activities involved in both methods may be available online or in paper format and will be directly related to your child's IEP goals. You would need to have Internet access and a device at home which your child can use to participate in these options. You or another adult may need to be involved and view the video lesson/online session together in order to help your child complete the activities.
2. Compensatory services: If neither of the above options are possible, you may opt to forego services now during the time that school is closed and receive a form of the services missed at a later date. In this option, when schools re-open, your therapist or APE teacher will complete a progress monitoring activity with your child in order to determine if h/she has lost any skills or has increased difficulties in their area of therapy or APE. Your child's therapist will determine the level/amount of compensatory services needed to help your child regain lost skills and the IEP team will then reconvene to make final decisions on services due. Services will be provided during the summer, 2020.

Your therapist(s) or APE teacher may be sending you a Google Survey to complete to document your preference for the provision of services. If they do not send the survey, they will, or may have already, contact you via phone or email to discuss these options.

Please know that Watauga County Schools is dedicated to provide the best services possible during this difficult time, and if necessary, compensatory services when or after school resumes or during the

summer. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's therapist(s) or teachers or the WCS Exceptional Children Department.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Marcela". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Mike Marcela, Ed.D

Exceptional Children Program Director