

Parent Letter Regarding Free and Appropriate Public Education During COVID-19

March 27, 2020

Dear Families,

Beginning Monday March 30th, if not before, you should be hearing from your child's teacher and/or therapists with information as to how they can support your child's learning during the COVID-19 emergency. Please take this opportunity to choose what best meets your child's and families need during this challenging time. The Tuscarora Intermediate Unit (TIU) Early Intervention Program is committed to making a good faith effort to provide continuity of education, planned instruction, and appropriate and reasonable services for students while our school districts are closed due to the COVID-19 health emergency. TIU Early Intervention Program will continue to provide a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) while emphasizing the need to protect the health and safety of our students, families, and those individuals providing education.

During the extended closure, the early intervention program will offer special education and related services through distance instruction provided virtually, online, by pre-recorded videos, and/or other appropriate modalities. During this time, the early intervention program will not be able to provide services face-to-face as they were provided prior to the COVID-19 health emergency. In addition, data for progress monitoring of IEP goals may not be able to be collected in the same manner it was typically collected. The IEP team will work collaboratively to monitor progress through parental/guardian communication and practices of observation and documentation remotely.

Our early intervention team values education and we value your child. We understand the challenges school closure has caused and want to do our part in ensuring your child has equal access to learning. Thank you for your continued cooperation as we work to ensure the safety of our students, staff, and communities.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

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