



Dear Parents/Families of Students with Disabilities,

March 27, 2020

Dr. Sylvia G. Rios
Superintendent of
Schools

During this time of school closures due to COVID-19, Laredo ISD has taken preventive measures to keep students, families and staff from attending school. Laredo ISD will continue to provide distance learning for all students. Moreover, the district is committed to provide Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) and continue to provide instructional support for the students with disabilities.

Board of Trustees

Outline below are distance-learning opportunities:

Hector J. Noyola
President, District 3

- Special education teachers will provide paper/pencil assignment packets and online resources for home use.

Hector J. Garcia
Vice President,
District 6

- Special education teachers will collaborate with general education teachers and ensure students with disabilities have access to support and any accommodations for assignments. Online lessons will be available via Google Classroom, Google Meets or other virtual means.

Monica Garcia
Secretary, District 7

- Occupational Therapist will be sending packets of assignments and/or online resources to students to access during the time of school closure. Physical therapy, and Occupational Therapy, will not provide direct services during school closure to ensure the safety of the students and families.

Jose A. Valdez
Trustee, District 1

- Behavior Specialist will communicate with parents and provide guidance on student's Behavior Intervention Plan. Special education teachers will collaborate with behavior specialist to send web links and strategies on various topics based on students' behavior needs.

Claudia V. Balli
Trustee, District 2

- In Home/Parent Training will be provide through packet assignment activities or other means of virtual learning. Service providers will be contacting the parents to provide guidance on assignments.

Ricardo Garza
Trustee, District 4

- Special Education Coordinators will guide and support special education teachers on instructional distance learning, ARD/IEP meeting processes through virtual means and maintain constant communication with all their assigned campuses.

Dr. Minita Ramirez
Trustee, District 5

- Adapted Physical Education will formulate activities and lessons to share with students and parents utilizing Google Classroom to disseminate the information.

- Homebound services will collaborate with general education teachers and provide needed support for parents and students.

- Speech Therapist and Visually Impairment/ services will utilize Class Dojo and Google Drive to distribute information to parents and students in addition to sending daily videos on therapy topics. VI teachers will communicate with parents and students providing support via instructional packets and sample instructional methods and routines regularly used with students.

- Counselors will work on activities that address their IEP goals and objectives. They will contact students via email and phone calls as well as provide activity packets for parents and students.

- Social Workers will communicate with families, physicians and other agencies to continue guidance and support for families; intake for new families will also continue via electronic/virtual means.

- Assistive technology will support special education teachers in providing parents access for student home usage on educational programs. Online conferencing will be provided for special education teachers to guide them on how to assign homework and lessons with assistive technology programs.
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing itinerant services will communicate with teachers and families to provide support using google classroom and other electronic means. Paper packets and instructional videos and/or websites will also be used.

Due to the circumstances, ARD meetings will continue to be held via teleconference using district staff and cell phone/or electronic device for parents.

I want to thank you for your cooperation and support as we make every effort to continue educating the students with disabilities.

Department of Special Education Director

Raul Gomez