



FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Department of Pupil Personnel Services

June 19, 2020

Dear Franklin Community,

Recently, the New Jersey Department of Education released updated information regarding the delivery of Extended School Year programs and services for the Summer of 2020. The information released has required local school districts to weigh the responsibility for the provision of special education services during the Extended School Year with mandates to provide a safe school environment during these unprecedented times. Continued uncertainty surrounds our ability to safely return students and staff back into our classrooms, especially within the short window of time available between the release of this information and the beginning of the Extended School Year programs on Monday, July 6, 2020.

Providing a safe educational environment for students is our number one priority, and it requires addressing critical safety concerns including hygiene, temperature scanning, social distancing, the provision of PPE for program staff and students, and the capability to secure safe transportation options for our students. Our district stakeholders have many questions and concerns that need to be addressed prior to the safe opening of our classrooms. In collaboration with county health officials, our school physician, and our school nurses, the district is committed to developing comprehensive plans to safely bring our students back into our schools as soon as is practicable. We want to ensure that we are responsible and conscientious when returning to the classroom environment.

Out of an abundance of caution, the district has made the decision to provide ESY programs this summer to our students using a hybrid mix of in-person and remote services. Direct Instructional programs will continue to be provided using the remote platforms that our students have been utilizing under the guidance of their special education teachers. In addition, supplemental technology programs will be made available to complement this programming. Individual IEP driven Therapy



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Services, including OT, PT, and Speech therapy will be made available to students in person, while ensuring adherence to the safety guidelines that were released by the NJ Department of Health (DOH). The district will also resume the in-person evaluation of students on July 6, 2020. Additional guidance regarding these services will be forthcoming.

We understand that you may have questions regarding the provision of ESY services this summer, and have suggestions for implementing these programs safely. If you would like to provide input as we develop programs moving forward, we invite you to complete the parent survey that can be found on the district website. The survey links can be found here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdJ4LgPA7eB7FmSOen48gTBTFQOkw_buCsmwzJYP-zG8oPcpg/viewform (English) or

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc6LSRswbETp2Ays9PdVYE3w511d-SeGuH7W0t3oKcWJMDmiw/viewform> (Spanish).

Sincerely,

Dr. Brenda Sofield

Dr. Brenda Sofield
Director of Pupil Personnel Services