Dear School Families,

I hope this email finds you well. I want to acknowledge the many challenges our families may be facing in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important to us that you understand the desire of our special services team to partner with you during this time to support the health, well-being, and educational needs of your child.

Currently, special education staff are working with general education teachers to make sure your child has appropriate access to the learning currently being offered. During the next two weeks, your child’s case manager will contact you to determine the special education and related services that need to be provided for the remainder of the year, while our school buildings are closed.

These services will be documented within a USD 497 Special Education Contingency Learning Plan and will be separate from your child’s current IEP services. IEP services, as currently documented within your child’s IEP, will resume when schools resume normal operations.

Contingency Learning Plans will be written to ensure a collaborative effort between our families and special education teams to develop services that are reasonable in light of the current circumstances. It is anticipated that these services will look significantly different. They will be designed and implemented to support student access to the general education curriculum and progress on individual IEP goals.

We want you to know that we are here for your family during this extraordinary time. Grace and understanding will be important to our partnership as we navigate this new path together. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child’s principal or case manager with questions you may have about the contingency plan.

Respectfully,

Kevin L. Harrell
Executive Director
Student Services and Special Education