



ST. ANN'S HOME, INC.

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Dear parents, special education surrogate parents, and school district liaisons,

I hope this update finds you all well and weathering all that the current pandemic has placed upon us. I am writing to update you on more detailed plans regarding St. Ann's school re-opening. Based on Governor Baker's order excluding residential school programs from the directive to re-open May 4, 2020, St. Ann's plans on re-opening the school building **on April 13, 2020** for Residential and Education students currently on campus. Over the past week, we have received guidance from DESE, both from the Commissioner's Office and the Special Education Department regarding remote learning, educational, and instructional opportunities. We are also basing this decision on conversations with local and state Departments of Public Health, our current staff and residents' health status, and conversations with other residential programs. This has been helpful in framing the plans that will be included here regarding the structure and delivery for services that can be provided at this time. For residential students currently at home, we will have opportunities for them to access real-time learning opportunities with their classroom teachers from 12:30-3:30 also beginning April 13, 2020. Those students should continue to log on to their current remote learning website (Google classroom) to see instructions to join GoMeet. Please contact me if there are questions or issues.

Beginning April 13, 2020 residential and education students will attend school from 9:00 am-12:00 noon. They will return to their residential units or group homes for the remainder of the academic day at 12:00. Most of the education staff have informed me that they are planning to return for in-person instruction, including related service providers (speech and OT).

We will abide by the 10-person limit per room, which is inclusive of staff. At this time, we have a plan for overflow rooms to accommodate larger ratios, which to date only affect 3 classrooms. We will also observe the recommended social distancing spaces within classrooms, gymnasium, Quiet Rooms, hallways, etc. to the degree reasonable for safety considerations.

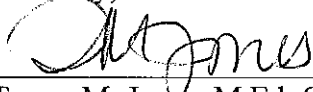
In addition, public school districts have been mandated to provide remote learning plans for students. This is also being required by school districts from Out of District placements (private schools, collaboratives) including St. Ann's. We have constructed our student plans to reflect weekly remote planning, and the template is attached in this communication (thank you to NH districts for the template idea). Teachers, specialists, and therapists are expected to complete service plans. As important stakeholders, parents and SESP's are encouraged to contact me with any questions, concerns, or ideas.

Lastly, I understand and respect all the different viewpoints, emotions, dilemmas, and situations this current state of affairs has presented for all and the decisions needed to be made regarding the education of students in a residential setting. The staff and I are excited to have students return to the school buildings!

I am mindful that these plans may change, as information becomes available and should require us to do so. For any updates or changes, I will inform you as soon as possible.

I wish you all continued health and peace of mind, and sincere thanks to the parents for all the support, encouraging emails and phone calls, and the extraordinary efforts from the therapists, teachers, specialists, medical staff, and residential unit staff during these difficult and unprecedented times.

Sincerely,



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