



BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Student Services
45 Mount Rock Road
Newville, PA 17241
(717) 776-2422

March 31, 2020

Dear Parent or Guardian,

As Dr. Fry mentioned in his latest video message, Big Spring has formalized a Continuity of Education K-12 plan for delivering enrichment and learning remotely. The plan is posted on the District web page and includes guidelines for special education staff to follow. Our goal for our special education staff, including any related service providers, is to provide remote learning enrichment activities at the same frequency as your child's regular education teachers. They will also be holding google meets, staying in contact with you and/or your child via e-mail, and/or maintaining office hours just as the other staff in the building. If you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail your child's special ed teacher.

I also want to take a moment to discuss the implementation of your child's IEP. As you can imagine, no-one ever anticipated the need for social distancing or a circumstance where our staff would not be able to have direct in person contact with their students for an "indefinite" period of time. We are not proposing any changes to your child's IEP at this time, and we will, as much as is possible under these unusual circumstances, connect our remote enrichment activities to the services and supports that your child would receive under normal circumstances.

Each week, included in the enrichment activities plan that is posted under your special education teacher's folder on our web page, your child's special ed teacher will highlight which skills, goal areas and/or modifications in your child's IEP connect to the activities for that week. In addition, many of our related service providers are gearing up to provide their sessions using a tele-therapy model and will be in touch to schedule specific sessions.

Of course, the ability for us to provide interactive enrichment activities requires internet access as well as the ability to log into our various remote platforms. If you do not have access or your child cannot log in *and you have not already contacted us via our regular education request for printed copies* please contact your child's special teacher or call 717-776-2465.

We will keep you informed of your child's participation on these enrichment activities as well as any changes on a regular basis. We look forward to partnering with you in the delivery of education during these unprecedented times.

Sincerely,

William Gillet
Director of Pupil services



BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT
Special Education
45 Mount Rock Road
Newville, PA 17241
NOTICE OF RECOMMENDED EDUCATIONAL PLACEMENT
PRIOR WRITTEN NOTICE (NOREP/PWN)
School Age

For LEA Use Only Date of Receipt of Signed NOREP/PWN _____
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This notice summarizes recommendations for your child's education program.

1. Type of action taken:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposes initial provision of special education and related services (For this action, the school may not proceed without your written consent in Section 8 of this document)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Refusal to initiate an evaluation (Must issue <i>Procedural Safeguards Notice</i>)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposes to change the identification, evaluation or educational placement of the child or the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Refusal to change the identification, evaluation or educational placement of the child or the provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Change of placement for disciplinary reasons (Must issue <i>Procedural Safeguards Notice</i>)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Due process hearing, or an expedited due process hearing, initiated by LEA
<input type="checkbox"/>	Graduation from high school
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exiting special education
<input type="checkbox"/>	Exiting high school due to exceeding the age eligibility for a free appropriate public education (FAPE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extended School Year (ESY) services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Response to request for an independent educational evaluation (IEE) at public expense
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other The District is issuing this Continuity of Education (CE) NOREP as a means to adhere to the requirements of Act 13 of 2020 and propose continuing education in the form of Enrichment and Enhancement in an interim plan, tethered to your child's IEP, to be implemented during the time of the COVID-19 pandemic and accompanying mandated school closures.

2. A description of the action proposed or refused by the LEA:

This notice serves to inform you that: (1) the District will provide continuity of education for your child; (2) the District will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that your child receives a free appropriate public education (FAPE) as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) based upon his/her individual circumstances and the mandated school closure; and (3) your child's education will likely differ from the services and support found in the current IEP due to the Governor's closure of schools during the pandemic, as the District may not be able to provide all of the services required.

The District is issuing this CE NOREP to notify you of the action it is taking to ensure your child's IEP is implemented with as much fidelity as is possible during mandated social distancing and the closure of all non-life-essential businesses, when teachers and students do not have access to the same resources as when school is open. The District will issue CE plans for your child on a weekly basis to update you on day-to-day learning specifics. This CE NOREP and the corresponding CE plan will remain in effect only during the period of mandated school closure.

3. An explanation of why the LEA proposed or refused to take the action:

Due to the outbreak of the coronavirus, specifically COVID-19, and the Governor-mandated closure of all public school districts, the District has suspended all in-person learning and instruction until schools are allowed to re-open. The District will not change the special education and related services or placement found in your child’s IEP, but will initiate planning and instruction to reflect the best efforts it will take to provide CE, tethered to your child’s IEP. This CE NOREP serves as notification to you of this action: (1) that the District will provide continuity of education for your child; (2) that your child will receive a FAPE as required by the IDEA, but based upon his/her individual circumstances and the mandated school closure; and (3) your child’s education will likely differ from the services and support found in his/her current IEP due to the Governor’s closure of schools during the pandemic, as the District may not be able to fully implement all of the services required by your child’s IEP. As part of the District’s commitment to your child, the IEP team will review and assess him/her, upon return to regular schooling, to (1) determine what additional supports and services your child may require as a result of the mandated school closure and (2) provide any required compensatory education or supports.

4. A description of other options that the IEP team considered and the reasons why those options were rejected. If the action proposed or refused is in regard to educational placement, options considered must begin with the regular educational environment with supplementary aids and services (information about supplementary aids and services is available on the PaTTAN website at www.pattan.net):

Options Considered	Reason for Rejection
Providing the specially designed instruction, accommodations, and services to your child as outlined in your child’s IEP.	The Governor of Pennsylvania has closed all Pennsylvania schools, thus suspending the ability for the District to provide in-person learning opportunities and the regular resources and materials that are available when schools are open, as may be required by the specially designed instruction, related services, accommodations, modifications, and/or services in your child’s IEP.

5. A description of each evaluation procedure, assessment, record or report used as a basis for the proposed action or action refused:

The sole basis for the District’s action is in response to the Governor’s closure of schools, and social distancing mandates, and the resulting inability to fully implement the services as written in your child’s IEP.

6. A description of other factors that were relevant to the LEA’s proposal or refusal:

Social distancing, as the primary method to prevent the spread of the coronavirus/COVID-19, prohibits in-person instruction and the learning opportunities that normally occur through the services and/or accommodations/modifications/specially designed instruction present in your child’s IEP

7. The educational placement recommended for your child is (State the amount and type of special education supports, e.g., Itinerant Learning Support, Supplemental Autistic Support, Full-Time Emotional Support):

You have rights and protections under the law described in the *Procedural Safeguards Notice*. If you need more information or want a copy of this notice, please contact:

Name and Title: William Gillet Phone: 717-776-2422
Email Address: wgillet@bigspring.k12.pa.us

Mr. Richard W. Fry

School District Superintendent/Designee
Charter School CEO



Signature

3/31/2020

Date (mm/dd/yy)

8. PARENTAL CONSENT

Directions for Parent/Guardian/Surrogate: Please check one of the options, sign this form, and return it within 10 calendar days. In circumstances when this form is NOT completed and parental consent is NOT required, the school will proceed as proposed after 10 calendar days.

I request an informal meeting with school personnel to discuss this recommendation.

I approve this action/recommendation.

I do not approve this action/recommendation.* My reason for disapproval is:

I request (Contact the Office for Dispute Resolution at 800-360-7282 for information on Mediation and Due Process Hearing):

Mediation

Due Process Hearing

* Except for placement in an interim alternative educational setting due to drugs, weapons, or serious bodily injury (§300.530(g), §300.530(i), and §300.531), if you do not approve the action/recommendation, your child will remain in the current program/placement only if you request a due process hearing or mediation through the Office for Dispute Resolution. If you do not request Due Process or Mediation through the Office for Dispute Resolution, the LEA will implement the action/recommendation.

SIGN HERE:

Parent/Guardian/Surrogate Signature

Date (mm/dd/yy)

Daytime Phone

PLEASE RETURN THIS ENTIRE FORM TO:

Name: William Gillet

Address: Big Spring School District
45 Mount Rock Road
Newville PA 17241

Attached are state and local resources you can consult to help you understand your rights and how the special education process works.

For help in understanding this form, an annotated *NOREP/Prior Written Notice* is available on the PaTTAN website at www.pattan.net Type "Annotated Forms" in the Search feature on the website. If you do not have access to the Internet, you can request the annotated form by calling PaTTAN at 800-441-3215.

RESOURCES

THE ARC OF PENNSYLVANIA

101 South Second Street
Suite 8
Harrisburg, PA 17101
800-692-7258
www.thearcpa.org

800-692-7443 (Toll-Free Voice)
877-375-7139 (TDD)
717-236-8110 (Voice)
717-346-0293 (TDD)
717-236-0192
www.drnpa.org

PARENT EDUCATION NETWORK (PEN)

2107 Industrial Highway
York, PA 17402-2223
717-600-0100 (Voice/TTY)
800-522-5827 (Voice/TTY)
800-441-5028 (Spanish in PA)
717-600-8101 (Fax)
www.parentednet.org

PENNSYLVANIA BAR ASSOCIATION

100 South Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
800-932-0311
www.pabar.org

PARENT EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY LEADERSHIP CENTER (PEAL)

1119 Penn Avenue
Suite 400
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-281-4404 (Voice)
866-950-1040 (Voice)
412-281-4409 (TTY)
412-281-4408 (Fax)
www.pealcenter.org

BUREAU OF SPECIAL EDUCATION'S CONSULTLINE, A PARENT HELPLINE

800-879-2301
ConsultLine personnel are available to parents and advocates of children with disabilities or children thought to be disabled to explain federal and state laws relating to special education; describe the options that are available to parents; inform the parents of procedural safeguards; identify other agencies and support services; and describe available remedies and how the parents can proceed.

HISPANICS UNITED FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN (HUNE, INC.)

202 West Cecil B. Moore Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19122
215-425-6203 (Voice)
215-425-6204 (Fax)
www.huneinc.org

OFFICE FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION

6340 Flank Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17112-2764
717-541-4960 (Phone)
800-222-3353 (Toll free in PA only)
800-654-4984 (TTY)
717-657-5983 (Fax)
<http://ODR.pattan.net>

THE MENTOR PARENT PROGRAM, INC.

P.O. Box 47
Pittsfield, PA 16340
814-563-3470 (Voice)
888-447-1431 (Voice in PA)
800-855-1155 (TTY)
814-563-3445 (Fax)
www.mentorparent.org

The Office for Dispute Resolution administers the mediation and due process systems statewide, and provides training and services regarding alternative dispute resolution methods.

DISABILITIES RIGHTS NETWORK

1414 North Cameron Street
Suite C
Harrisburg, PA 17103

THE PENNSYLVANIA TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NETWORK (PaTTAN)

Harrisburg 800-360-7282
King of Prussia 800-441-3215
Pittsburgh 800-446-5607
www.pattan.net