



Dear Parents/Families of Students with Disabilities,

August 24, 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 safe. Laredo ISD will continue to provide remote learning for all students. Moreover, the district is committed to provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) and continue to provide remote learning instructional support for the students with disabilities.

Board of Trustees

Hector J. Noyola  
President, District 3

Outlined below are remote-learning opportunities:

Hector J. Garcia  
Vice President,  
District 6

- Special education administrators will conduct virtual learning walks to ensure and determine what, if any, additional supports may be needed for each student to continue to progress in the general education curriculum and on their Individual Education Plan goals/objectives.
- Special education teachers and related service staff will receive training on standard operating procedures, virtual platforms, assistive technology software, behavior strategies, and accommodations.
- Week prior to school start, teachers and related service providers will contact parents and explain method of instruction (remote learning and paper/pencil packets) and platforms that will be used virtually.
- If needed, teachers and related service providers will adjust instructional schedule to accommodate parent/student.
- Special education teachers and related service providers will check in with each parent/student for one to one progress review on a weekly basis. Special education teachers are required to complete differentiated lesson plans to meet the needs of the IEP-entitled students they support whether instruction is remote or face-to-face.
- Special education teachers will work in Professional Learning Communities along with general education content teachers to ensure that they are able to finalize adapted lesson plans and curricular materials that meet the accommodations and modifications outlined in each student's IEP.
- Students with IEPs plans will continue to receive support and/or modifications (tactile, auditory and kinesthetic) as specified by each student's individual plan.
- Content Mastery staff will provide more one to one and small group direct, consistent check-ins with students.
- Special Education Coordinators will conduct virtual learning walks to guide and support special education teachers on remote learning, Annual Review and Dismissal/Individual Education Plan meeting processes through virtual means and maintain constant communication with all their assigned campuses.
- Special Education social workers will provide access to mental health, well-being, and community resources. Social workers will be able to guide students and families to the right resources and support the Child Find Process.
- Social workers will be providing more one to one check-ins with family to ensure support for families in accessing asynchronous learning.
- 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.
- Assistive technology will support special education teachers in providing parents access for student home usage on educational programs.

Monica Garcia  
Secretary, District 7

Jose A. Valdez  
Trustee, District 1

Claudia V. Balli  
Trustee, District 2

Ricardo Garza  
Trustee, District 4

Dr. Minita Ramirez  
Trustee, District 5

- Physical Therapist Assistant/ Occupational Therapist will be providing telehealth services and sending packets of assignments and/or online resources for students to access.
- 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.
- Adaptive 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 for lessons and provide direct remote learning for students.
- Speech Therapy services will provide telehealth to students by utilizing Class Dojo and Google Drive to distribute information to parents and students in addition to sending daily videos on therapy topics.
- Teachers for the Visually Impaired will communicate with parents and students providing support via instructional packets and sample instructional methods and routines regularly used with students.
- In Home/Parent Training will be provide through packet assignment activities or other means of remote learning. Service providers will be contacting the parents to provide guidance on assignments.
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing itinerant services will communicate with teachers and families to provide support using google classroom and other electronic means. Instructional videos and/or websites will also be used.
- Parents will be offered training on virtual platforms: Assistive technology software, behavior strategies and accommodations will also be explained via videos and remote learning.

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. If you need any assistance, please contact your school administrator or you can contact me at 273.1500 or via e-mail at [rgomez@laredoisd.org](mailto:rgomez@laredoisd.org).

Respectfully,

Raul Gomez, Jr.

Department of Special Education Director

1701 Victoria Street

Telephone numbers: 273.1500 or 273.1505