March 20, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We would like to let you know that you and your loved ones are in our thoughts as we all navigate this Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. Anne Arundel County Public Schools' Department of Special Education is remaining in close contact with systems across the state, the Federal Office of Special Education Programs, and the Maryland State Department of Education as we address the impact of coronavirus on the education of our students.

As we plan to meet the academic needs of each individual student based on their IEPs, we remain aware of the variety of educational, physical, psychological, emotional, and logistical issues that each family is addressing daily. The Department is working collaboratively with our partners in the Division of Academics, those that support us in Instructional Technology, and our peers around the state and nation to ensure that we consider all options in developing a plan to serve your children.

Please know that we are committed to doing all that we can in the coming weeks to maximize the opportunities we have to engage with our students and to assist parents and guardians to support their children's growth. We remain mindful of the fact that not all families have access to technology and that not all students are receptive to that form of communication. We are working steadily to develop a variety of tools, resources and methods to continue working with our students during these uncertain times.

You will hear more from us regarding the delivery of special education services as decisions are made, procedures agreed upon, and materials/practices are prepared and ready to be implemented. Please know that our concern for the safety of your children and the impact of this time away from school remain our highest priority.

Sincerely,

Bobbi Pedrick

Director of Special Education

Anne Arundel County Public Schools