



STATE OF WASHINGTON
**WASHINGTON CENTER FOR
DEAF and HARD of HEARING YOUTH**
611 Grand Blvd., S-26 Vancouver, Washington 98661-4918 • (360) 696-6525
Administration FAX (360) 696-6291 • Business Office FAX (360) 418-0418

April 28, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we continue to adjust to our new remote learning environment, I want to make sure you are aware of how our educational and special education services are affected. Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction has recommended that all schools in the state of Washington continue instruction through June 19. In response to this, WSD has extended our school year to June 19, 2020. Seniors will still “graduate” on June 4. We are sending home separate letters for families of seniors outlining plans moving forward.

All instruction that WSD teachers and staff are currently providing include IEP services, however, per state and federal guidance, there is not an expectation that IEP services will be delivered exactly as the IEP states during this national emergency.

The state continues to encourage schools to prioritize health and safety, student educational needs, and parent communication, at this time. CDHY/WSD Staff will implement the IEP to the fullest extent possible during the statewide closure due to the governor’s proclamations and executive orders. The services frequency and amounts documented on the service page will resume once normal operations resume.

During school closure your child’s Teacher of the Deaf and related service providers will be providing instruction virtually and assigning learning activities to support progress towards your child’s IEP goals. WSD is following the maximum screen time guidelines for academic purposes: 3 hours per day at the high school level, 2 hours per day for middle school and 1 hour per day for elementary. If your child has related services such as counseling, speech, OT or PT, our service providers have set up weekly distant learning activities and have already or will soon be reaching out to parents to set a weekly schedule. These services are in addition to the screen time guidelines. If parents wish to suspend a related service during this time, please contact your child’s principal, or special education facilitator and we will amend the IEP.

IEPs due before June 19, 2020 will be reviewed by the IEP team and amended to reflect any service changes during the closure. Jackie Valadao, Special Education Secretary, is calling all families with IEPs due between now and the end of the school year. For IEPs that have already occurred this school year, parents may request an amendment to their child’s IEP.

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I am grateful for our continued partnership with families as we continue on this journey. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shauna Bilyeu".

Shauna Bilyeu
Shauna.bilyeu@cdhl.wa.gov
VP: 360-334-5448

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