



April 30, 2020

Good afternoon

As we come to the end of the first week after our Spring Break, I wanted to reach out to let you know that the staff continues to work diligently on the evolving virtual learning process. I continue to hold weekly meetings with each of the different groups who are working directly with your children: the Special Education Teachers, Child Study Team members, Title-1 staff, and other support staff members.

During the meetings, we discuss any concerns that have been brought to their attention and collaborate on different topics. The communication between the groups continues to be helpful in discussing and sharing their ideas, methods, and procedures. If you require any help, please reach out to your child's teacher (and keep the case manager included in the correspondence). The feedback is extremely helpful in monitoring what occurs at home - and helps them plan to support your children. As I have mentioned before, please make sure to not only share any issues you may be experiencing but the positive feedback too.

As the month of April winds down, I would be remiss in not addressing Autism Awareness month. For the first time in my 18 years in the school district, we had to divert our focus to support online learning and other issues at hand. The Autism Awareness Committee had several events scheduled, and we will look to reschedule them as appropriate when we return to a time that is conducive to the events. Until that time, I would like to share some resources provided to us by the NJDOE Office of Special Education:

- Autism Focused Resources & Modules - [Supporting Individuals with Autism Through Uncertain Times](#)
- Autism New Jersey - [COVID 19 and Autism in NJ](#)
- NYC Early Childhood Mental Health Webinar - [Supporting Families and Caregivers of Infants and Young Children Affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- Autism Speaks - [Priorities for the Autism Community During Times of Crisis](#)
- Center for Parent Information & Resources - [Parent Resources During COVID-19](#)
- NTACT - [Transition Resources During COVID-19](#)
- SPAN - [COVID 19 Information Page](#)
- HelpGuide - [Helping Your Child with Autism Thrive](#)
- Very Well Health - [6 Autism Therapies Parents Can Provide in Their Own Home](#)

Be well.

Jack