



Littleton Public Schools

33 Shattuck St. * P.O. Box 1486 * Littleton, MA 01460-4486*
Phone: (978) 540-2500 * Fax: (978) 486-9581 * : www.littletonps.org



. KELLY R. CLENCHY, Ed.D., SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Elizabeth M. Steele, Interim Director of Curriculum
Justine A. Muir, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
Steven F. Mark, Business Manager

Natalie A. Croteau, Technology Systems Coordinator
Julie Lord, Instructional Technology Coordinator

June 9, 2020

Re: Extended School Year (ESY) Programming for Students with Disabilities

Dear Families,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to provide you with an update on summer programming, specifically Extended School Year (ESY) programming for students with disabilities.

Thursday, June 4, 2020, Commissioner Jeffrey Riley released initial guidance on school summer programs. This followed the Governor's announcement earlier last week regarding reopening guidelines for child care programs, summer day camps, and municipal recreation programs. Commissioner Riley's initial guidance detailed the parameters and adjustments that districts and schools would need to make to safely open in-person summer programs. More detailed guidance focused specifically on special education summer programs, which includes Extended School Year (ESY) services was released on Sunday evening. Today, Tuesday, June 9th, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education hosted a meeting to provide further clarification about the necessary steps and precautions necessary for opening. The full guidance on summer is not scheduled to be released for another week or more. As you can imagine, the timing of these guidance documents present significant challenges.

After careful review and consideration of Commissioner Riley's initial guidance and safety checklist, the specific guidance on Summer 2020 Special Education Services, along with communication with other local districts and stakeholders, Littleton will begin Extended School Year (ESY) services for eligible students in a remote fashion. The health and safety of students, staff, and the educational community is of the utmost importance. At this time, we are unable to meet all the safety, training, and planning requirements and parameters to start with in-person ESY on July 6, 2020, and feel confident that we are ensuring safety for all.

I understand that this may be less than ideal for your child or children. Please know, all eligible students will receive their ESY services, but they will be provided differently. Over the next few weeks, we will be sending home letters to families of students who receive ESY programming to confirm the individual Extended School Year Plan for each child.

We will keep the possibility open of providing some in-person services later on in the summer. We will work diligently and employ our best efforts to be able to meet the safety requirements and additional guidance to be provided from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and our local Board of Health so that we can provide as many in-person services to students this summer as is feasible. This has been and will continue to be our goal.

I appreciate your collaboration and support as we navigate this difficult time as a community. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's liaison, team chairperson, or myself and we will be happy to assist in any way we can. Please take care, stay safe, and be well.

Sincerely,

Justine Muir
Director of Pupil Services