

# DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

## Executive Director's Four Point Update

### ONE

#### TRANSITION PLAN SURVEY

Thank you to all the parents, caregivers, students, and staff who provided the input that was used to draft the Special Education Transition Plan. The key finding was that 82% percent of respondents saw it as critical to incorporate a re-entry criteria or matrix to determine which students transition safely to in person learning.

### TWO

#### SEVERITY LEVEL MATRIX CRITERIA

We have begun reviewing models of a severity matrix to include in the final transition plan. This evidence-based practice will inform our decision-making to determine which diverse learners need to return to in-person instruction, at which phase they will re-enter, and how they can safely do so.

### THREE

#### LET'S CHAT MEETINGS

Beginning in October, I will be hosting quarterly Executive Director and Parent-Caregiver Let's Chat Sessions. This will be an opportunity for parents and caregivers to connect with me, ask questions, to receive and exchange support, and/or just be heard. Flyers detailing dates and times will be disseminated the second week of October.

### FOUR

#### LEARNING LABS

To provide opportunities for in-person services and supports to students and families, the Department of Special Education is creating a limited number of onsite Learning Labs for diverse learners. The first phase of learning labs will be provided to students who have currently opted-in to in-person learning from our instructional programs. Paraeducators will serve as onsite Learning Lab Facilitators who will oversee students' accessibility and participation in remote learning while their current teachers and related services providers work remotely. This will serve as an alternate pathway to transition diverse learners to some form of in-person learning and support beginning the first semester. The labs will start October 5th and will be held Monday through Thursday. Remote learning from home will resume on Fridays. Parents-Caregivers will be contacted directly with further details, and will have the option of opting-in or opting-out of participating in a Learning Lab.



C O M M U N I C A T I O N

