

## **FAQs Virtual Learning and Special Education**

### **How will students receive academic support during the school day as outlined in their IEP?**

Students who have support during a normal school day in specific content areas outlined in their IEP, will continue to receive that support through their virtual classroom. For example, if your child is receiving support in Math as outlined in their IEP, the special education staff will be present during Math virtual classroom time to support your student. Once students return in person, they will receive the same support in person. If you opt to continue to keep your child on virtual, services and supports will continue in the same way virtually.

### **Who is my child's teacher of record and what is their responsibilities?**

You will be contacted by your child's teacher of record during the first week of school. The teacher of record is responsible for writing, monitoring, and implementing your child's IEP. If you have any questions pertaining to your child's IEP, please reach out to the teacher of record as your first point of contact.

### **How will related services be delivered (speech, OT, PT, Behavior therapy)?**

The service provider will reach out to you directly to schedule services within the first ten days of school. Please note that each year during the first ten days of school, related services are creating caseloads and

time slots for every student. We will do our best to schedule time that best supports each child based on his/her needs. All services will be provided virtually during the first four weeks of school. This will be the model until students return to school in person. If you opt to keep your child home after in person resumes, services will continue virtually.

### **Questions specific to the Early Childhood Program located at Wadsworth Elementary:**

#### **Who can attend this program?**

**ONLY** students who have been evaluated and have qualified for an IEP can attend this program. Typically, students who have participated in First Steps Programming know ahead of time if their child will qualify for Early Childhood Programming at Wadsworth.

#### **How do I request an evaluation if I believe that my child may be eligible for services?**

Step 1: Please register your child on-line first.

Step 2: Once the on-line registration is completed, you need to make an appointment with the Wadsworth secretary to bring in your residency documentation. We need all of this information before any screening or evaluation can be requested by a parent so that we can assign them an STN number.

Step 3: Once residency is verified, please request an evaluation in writing to the building principal. A record review will be conducted within ten school days with the appropriate diagnostic team members

to determine if an evaluation is warranted based on information provided by the parent and available student data.

Step 4: The determination of the record will be shared with the parent in writing. **If an evaluation is warranted, parent consent will need to be documented before any part of the evaluation can be conducted.**

Step 5: Once parent consent is received, the (50) school-day timeline to conduct the evaluation and meet to determine eligibility begins.

**\*Please note that your child MAY only qualify for “speech only service”. This would NOT mean that your child is eligible for the Early Childhood Program. An IEP would be implemented with services to support your child in Speech which would require your child to be brought in by parent on a scheduled speech time day/time provided by school staff in person or virtually (depending on Return to Learn Status).**

### **What if my student receives support in the Elementary or Middle-High School Intense and Therapeutic Classroom?**

Your child will receive virtual instruction much like every other student in the district. The teacher will provide communication as to what the daily schedule will look like so that you have an idea on how to structure your child’s day. Please know that we understand that your child may struggle with attending to the classroom virtually for long periods of time. Please communicate with the classroom teacher. We understand the challenges that virtual learning presents. We want to work with you to best support your child and make accommodations as needed, in an effort to best support the needs of each individual child.

## **What if my student receives support in the Elementary or Middle-High School Social-Emotional Classroom?**

Your child will receive virtual instruction much like every other student in the district. The teacher will provide communication as to what the daily schedule will look like so that you have an idea on how to structure your child's day. Please know that we understand that your child may struggle with attending to the classroom virtually for long periods of time. Please communicate with the classroom teacher. We understand the challenges that virtual learning presents. We want to work with you to best support your child and make accommodations as needed, in an effort to best support the needs of each individual child.

## **What do I do if my child was in the middle of a special education last year and it was unable to be completed?**

For many that were coming due, a case conference was scheduled and held to continue the evaluation as all testing could not be conducted due to Covid 19 restrictions implemented beginning in March of 2020. For those that were not conferenced, a case conference will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

## **What do I do if I want my child to be evaluated for Special Education?**

Please email your building principal directly to request a special education evaluation. Upon receiving your request, a record review will be held by the diagnostic team to determine if a special education evaluation is warranted based on data specific to the student. Parents will receive determination in writing. If a special education is

warranted, parent consent will be needed to begin any component of that evaluation. Once parent consent is received, the diagnostic team will have (50) school days to conduct the evaluation and meet to determine if student is eligible for services, as well as review the results of the evaluation.

### **How will evaluations be done? In person? Virtually?**

Some components of an evaluation can be done virtually, while other components of the evaluation will need to be conducted in person but by appointment only. Please respond to the diagnostic team promptly so we can complete all portions of the evaluation as soon as possible to best support your child in the upcoming school year. All attempts to contact parent to conduct evaluations will be documented so that we can remain in compliance with our (50) school day timeline. We ask that you respond and commit to appointments that are made in an effort to complete all portions of the evaluation in a timely manner.

### **How will annual case conferences be convened?**

You will be contacted by your child's teacher of record to schedule your case conference. The draft IEP and notice of conference will be emailed to you. Three attempts to schedule the case conference with parent will be made. After three documented attempts to parent, the case conference will be held as scheduled. Final copies of IEPs will be emailed to parent. We prefer under the current circumstances that case conferences are held over the phone or by zoom meeting. We will honor any parent requests to have case conferences in person, but please understand that some CCC members will need to be

conferenced in if they are unable to meet in person. If a parent would like to meet via Zoom for their child's case conference, we will honor that request if the parent puts that request in writing to the teacher of record.

**Who do I contact with issues pertaining to my child's IEP?**

Contact the teacher of record directly.

**Who do I contact about classroom assignments and grades?**

Contact the classroom teacher directly.

**Who do I contact in regards to discipline?**

Contact the dean of students or building principal directly.

**Who do I contact to request a Special Education Evaluation?**

Contact your building principal directly, in writing.

**Who do I contact about Schoology or Power School issues?**

Email Mrs. Dragomer directly: [rdragomer@griffith.k12.in.us](mailto:rdragomer@griffith.k12.in.us)

For any further information, please contact the Director of Special Education, Leah Dumezich: [ldumezich@griffith.k12.in.us](mailto:ldumezich@griffith.k12.in.us)