



Preparing students for life beyond the classroom

Accredited by NCASES and Middle States Association

April 2, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We hope this letter finds you and your family well during this challenging time. The Phoenix Center staff misses all of the students tremendously and is hard at work to stay connected with you and your child, and developing online lessons/materials. As we are finishing week three of distance learning, all lessons and materials for students are posted on *Google Classroom* as well as scheduled time for live interactions with staff on Google Meet. We have seen many students already start utilizing *Google Classroom* and interacting with their teachers, therapists and classmates. Please know that you can reach out to us through email at any time and we will be glad to get back to you as soon as we can. Staff may also be calling you with their personal phones to talk. These calls may show as "No Caller ID" on your phone so please be on the lookout as it could be a Phoenix Staff attempting to reach you. It is so important for everyone to keep connected during this time of social distancing and remote learning.

As we are settling into this new platform of learning, please know that The Phoenix Center is here to support you in order to ensure that all students have access to their education. We appreciate everything you have done so far to support your child's education and know that your continued efforts are vital to maintaining their academics. We know it is difficult, but your child's continued participation in academics and related services via distance learning is of most importance. Your child's participation and progress will be measured through this platform during this closure. Effective April 1st, an emergency regulation was passed that allows all related services (Speech, Counseling, OT & PT) to be provided online. "Allowing the use of electronic communications, virtual, remote, or other online platforms ensures students with disabilities are provided the services they are entitled to, as set forth by a student's individualized education program (IEP), during extended school closures." The Phoenix Center's Speech Therapists and Counselors began sessions, via teletherapy, on Monday, March 30th; OT and PT will begin their schedules on Monday, April 6th. Please be sure to look for an email from your child's OT/PT with the days, times and start date of their scheduled sessions. Your child's therapy sessions can be found in the Speech, OT/PT and Counseling Google Classrooms.

As we know this is a challenging time for many families, it is imperative that parents/guardians work collaboratively with teachers, related service providers and behavior team members to establish a "new learning routine" for your child. Their education is of the utmost importance to us and we are striving to provide the best resources possible through virtual learning. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

A friendly reminder that spring break begins on Friday, April 10th and goes through Friday, April 17th. Distance learning will resume on Monday, April 20th in *Google Classroom*. We greatly appreciate all of your support and look forward to our continued partnership. Take care and stay healthy!

Sincerely,

Julie Mower, M.A. Ed.
Executive Director

Sincerely,

Katie Passarotti, M.A.
Principal