



March 29, 2020

Re: Provision of Virtual Services during the Mandated Closure

Dear Parents/Guardians:

In an effort to provide continuous learning opportunities during school closures to our students, the District will provide virtual [social, emotional, special education instructional groups, and speech and language learning] or [web-based individual or group instructional, educational and related service sessions] (“Activities”) through electronic platforms to students.

Please be aware that in doing so, the District will use third-party platforms such as Schoology, SeeSaw, Google Meet, Google Hangouts, Google Classroom, or Zoom. Using these platforms creates potential privacy risks as students will be logging in and participating within these groups with teachers and peers from their home. As a function of using the platforms, certain student information may be shared with the platform. The platforms may maintain, utilize or disclose the shared information and may use it for other purposes, including for commercial purposes. Also, participants, by design, have the capability to view and hear other participants.

While these privacy risks exist, our staff is taking reasonable measures to support the confidentiality and security of information exchanged while supporting your student within the context of the virtual platforms’ use terms. By allowing your student to participate, you are agreeing to the process and to not audio or video record the Activities.

On your end, we request that if your student is participating in any Activities, please be sure that your student is in a quiet location with minimal distraction and adult oversight. Please be sure that your child does not participate in interactive video groups in public. We are asking students and parents to maintain information learned about another student in a confidential manner, as we would expect for our students who were participating in group Activities while attending school. Finally, we note again, that no activity should be recorded in any manner.

If you have any questions about this virtual tele-support for your student or any concerns related to your student’s participation in such, please email me at swansonk@wilmette39.org.

Sincerely,

Kristin Swanson, Ph.D.
Administrator for Student Services