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Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604

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Dear Bridgeport Parent/Guardian,

First, let me say I hope you and your family are safe and healthy as you read this letter. Thank you so much for your patience and understanding as we have been adjusting, like you, to the drastic changes in life during the last few weeks.

As you know, distance learning for the Bridgeport School District is now in full motion. Our goal is to provide continuous educational opportunities and practice for students while schools are closed, but also to eliminate as much stress as feasibly possible for students, parents, and teachers. While it is our responsibility to continue to educate our children, we also want to compassionately take into consideration the variety of difficulties that our families are enduring during this time.

From the first day our schools were closed, March 13, the Bridgeport School District began providing individualized instructional packets and related services for all of our students in order to provide continuity of educational services during the school closure. The School District will continue to provide your child with a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) during this time.

The Bridgeport School District plans to continue moving forward with providing group virtual instruction, when appropriate, unless the District receives written notification of a family's desire to opt out due to privacy concerns – kindly email/contact your special education teacher or support staff.

Thank you for your patience during this challenging time. As additional information becomes available, we will keep you updated. If you have any concerns about your ability to access online programming or virtual services, please contact your child's special education teacher/support staff/administration to discuss resources and/or alternatives for the implementation of your child's program.

Stay strong! Stay healthy!

Serving you,

Robert E. Arnold

Interim Executive Director of Specialized Instruction