April 3, 2020

Regular US Mail, EMAIL

RE: Written Notice Re School/District Closure to Prevent/Contain the Spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Dear Parent(s) and/or Guardian(s) of Student with Special Needs;

This letter is written notice by the Moreno Valley Unified School District (“District”) regarding the closure of your child’s school, which began on March 16, 2020, and estimated to last at least through June 19, 2020.

The District has determined that it is necessary to close its schools to prevent/contain the spread of COVID-19, pursuant to the order of the Health officer of the County of Riverside to close all schools from March 16 through June 19. The school closure determination was made based on health and safety concerns for students, families, staff, and the community at large, as well as for concerns for our state and for our nation, at large.

Please know that during the time our schools remain closed due to COVID-19, the District may be unable to provide the exact services written in your child's IEP. This is because we believe that the health and safety of our students, staff, and community at large is of paramount concern. Further, the shelter in place orders and the guidance requiring social distancing mandates that changes must be made in the delivery of education to both general education and special education students during the closure period. Not only is it impossible for the District to implement current IEPs, as written, because schools remain closed, but the health and safety concerns of all dictate that the District not do so.

That said, we are in the process of developing a contingency plan for your child to receive special education and related services, to the extent that is possible and feasible, during this COVID-19 school closure. Please be assured that this contingency plan to educate your child will only be in place during the COVID-19 school closure, and is necessary to protect your child’s health and safety, as well as our student body, staff, your families and the community at large.

Please be advised that the District is not changing your child's IEP placement or services. Rather, the contingency education plan will be implemented during this emergency situation only and that when it is safe to resume school, your child will receive the placement and related services which are written in his or her IEP.

To the extent that is feasible and in line with health and safety, your child will receive some special education and related services, but those services will be delivered in an alternative manner, and consistent with the shelter in place order that is currently in place across the State of California. These services are expected to begin on or about April 20, 2020. During the week of April 13 through 17, 2020, we will get back in touch with you to discuss the provision of your child's contingency plan.
Also, for those annual and triennial IEP team meetings currently scheduled to occur during the month of April 2020, someone from the District will reach out to you to reschedule the meeting to a later date. We are very hopeful to be in a position to resume the annual and triennial IEP team meeting reviews on or about May 4, 2020, but are uncertain at this time. All other IEP team meetings will be addressed on a case by case basis. Thank you for your patience and collaboration in this regard.

Again, I want you to understand two important messages from our District. First, the District does not take lightly its obligations under the IDEA, but at this time of great need and state of emergency, please understand that the health and safety of all dictate that an alternative plan to educate your child be developed and implemented. Second, this plan will only be in place during the COVID-19 school closure, and as soon as the health and safety concerns related to COVID-19 are alleviated and school resumes, your child's IEP will be implemented, as written.

Once your child's contingency plan is finalized, your child's case manager will contact you to provide you with the plan that will be implemented for your child during this COVID-19 school closure.

- In making its determination, the District reviewed and considered the following:
  - Recommendations from the Center for Disease Control,
  - Recommendations from the California Department of Education and the United States Department of Education,
  - Recommendations from the Riverside County Public Health Department and the California Department of Public Health,
  - Guidance from Governor Newsom, including Executive Orders issued by him,
  - All other relevant information available to the District regarding COVID-19, including the current Shelter in Place order in place throughout the State of California.

Finally, please be advised that as parent(s) or guardian(s) of a child with a disability, you have certain rights. You received a copy of your parental rights and procedural safeguards at your child's last IEP team meeting; however, if you would like another copy, please contact Jason Ramirez, at jason.ramirez@mvusd.net, and we will ensure you receive another copy. Please feel free to contact the following sources if you have questions regarding your rights:

Moreno Valley SELPA  
25634 Alessandro Blvd.  
Moreno Valley, CA 92553  
(951) 571-7500 ext 17582

California Department of Education  
P.O. Box 9442  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2720

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me at jason.ramirez@mvusd.net

Sincerely,

Jason Ramirez  
Executive Director, Special Education/SELPA  
Moreno Valley Unified School District