



**The Maryland School for the Blind**  
3501 TAYLOR AVENUE BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21236 410-444-5000

## Implementing IEP's During School Closure (4.17.2020)

During this time of school closures across the country and state, The Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) will continue to provide educational and related services through a variety of delivery methods and modes.

### IEP Provisions and Team Meetings

Individual Educational Plans (IEPs) will be implemented as written whenever possible through distance education. However, changes in delivery of goals and objectives will be necessary in some cases and will be facilitated through an amendment agreement between MSB's educational team and the parent or guardian. The amendment agreement will be documented in the IEP in accordance with guidance from the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE). When schools are able to reopen and resume normal operations, the agreement will end and the IEP as written will be in place again.

Annual IEP meetings will be held through a teleconference platform that will allow for team access through video and/or phone conferencing.

### MSB Process:

Teachers will lead the educational team for each student who needs amendment information to be documented in the IEP for the duration of the school closure. **All changes will only be valid until schools return to normal operations.**

Teachers and service providers will each review all areas of the IEP for which they have sole or shared responsibility and determine what can be realistically addressed during the period of distance learning. The review will be inclusive of services, goals and objectives, and supplementary aids, services, program modifications and supports (SASPMS).

Proposed changes to the IEP could include structural changes to goals, objectives, services or supports or it could be postponing implementation of some goals completely until school re-opens.



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The teacher as the primary point of contact will go through the proposed temporary changes to the IEP in its entirety with the parent. Parents will work with the teacher to determine if what is being proposed is reasonable for them to manage at home. During this time, we all have lots to manage. Parents should consider what they can reasonably implement at home given the needs of the family and other factors. The teacher will share with other team members the results of the conversation with the parent.

In many cases, finalizing the proposal and moving from proposal to plan can be accomplished through email and informal conversations. It is only when parents and team members cannot agree through these means that a formal team meeting is required.

Once everyone is in agreement with the plan, the teacher will notify the Principal, Assistant Principal and local school system (LSS). The Principal/Assistant Principal will document the plan in the IEP in accordance with anticipated guidance from MSDE.

If at any time during the closure you need to adjust the plan to better meet the needs of your family and child, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher to discuss.