

JOHN W. DECAS SCHOOL
508-291-3530
MINOT FOREST SCHOOL
508-291-3555



WAREHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL
508-291-3550
WAREHAM HIGH SCHOOL
508-291-3510
Wareham Cooperative Alternative
PASS Program
508-291-3500 x3512

WAREHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
48 MARION ROAD
WAREHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 02571
508-291-3500

June 10, 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers of Students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs),

To those who have children with Extended School Year (ESY) summer services in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP), the Wareham Public School District has decided to remain virtual for our Extended School Year to ensure the safety and well being of our students and families.

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) recently shared on June 7, 2020, guidance for Summer 2020 Special Education Extended School Year Services (ESY). Prior to the ability to hold in-person summer special education services, it is necessary for Wareham Public School Programs to continue to assess the capacity to meet the required criteria for health and safety protocols as outlined by DESE and the centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Given the nature of our populations some critical precautions may not be guaranteed, social distancing and student face covering, for example, will not always be possible. We The District will not be ready to re-open entirely right away, but continue planning towards the goal of reopening as soon as it is safe to do so.

Remote Extended School Year (ESY) instruction will be available for students with ESY programming on their IEP. This will mirror current, remote classroom instruction including opportunities for similar individual and group sessions with ancillary service providers (Speech, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Board Certified Behavior Analyst services (BCBA) and counseling). We also will have an ESY Boot Camp (August 10-13), which is a combination of small group and individual remote tutoring

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sessions to include assignments and scheduled drop-in sessions, provided by Special Education paraprofessionals working under the supervision of Special Education Teachers and/or Special Education Teachers.

Within the next few weeks, we will complete the process of hiring the staff necessary, finalizing implementation plans, and informing you of your child's summer ESY schedule. At that point, a decision from you as to whether your child will be attending the proposed ESY program will be needed, and all details will follow. Please be advised that you have the right as a parent or guardian to opt-out of the Extended School Year Program, and need to notify us in writing of your intention not to participate.

We understand that this is a difficult time for our students, and also for our families. Please know that we have taken all guidance from the state and federal government as well as the MA and US Department of Education under careful consideration when making this decision. Wareham Public Schools needs to make our students' safety, family, and staff our number one priority as we move forward to provide remote learning opportunities and related services to our students.

Please note that if you choose to have your child participate in the Extended School Year (ESY) programming, you do not need to return your child's iPad or Chromebook, as they will require their device to access the remote learning opportunities and services.

Warm regards,

Melissa Fay
Director of Student Services

****Extended School year (ESY) contact information:**

Student Services, 508-291-3500 ext 3512

Karen Austin, Student Services Secretary - khaustin@wareham.k12.ma.us