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July 16, 2020

Dear TEC Parent/Guardians:

As you know, we are continually reviewing all COVID-19 guidelines provided to us from DESE, the CDC, state and local advisories in order to plan for the safe reopening of TEC's in-person instructional programs. The most recent DESE supplement, *Guidance on Fall 2020 Special Education Services*, was released on July 2, 2020 and you can find that [here](#).

We know this is a particularly difficult time for our students and families and you may be wondering why some districts are offering in-person summer programs for special education students, but not TEC. In essence, every TEC student is *high-priority*, but they are also *highly vulnerable* due to complex medical conditions, disability, or other health issues. Our students also come to us from many different communities, making a safe and healthy reopening of our campus subject to change based upon the latest trend of public health data.

Still, we are actively working through the complexities to mitigate health risks for our students and staff members as best we can and lay the groundwork for a healthy and successful school year. For example, all staff members are being trained in the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) needed to provide direct instruction to our students with complex health and learning challenges. We are rearranging our classrooms to comply with the restrictions on physical distancing and sharing of equipment, have analyzed student transportation issues, and implemented compulsory cleaning and sanitizing procedures. We have also prepared for in-person, hybrid and remote learning models as required by DESE.

I am sure you have questions about our planning, and I invite you to join us for an online **TEC Family Meeting via Zoom, on July 29, 2020 from 10:00am – 11:00am**. We will provide you with an update on our new protocols, practices and instructional models and listen and respond to your questions. Login information will be sent to you next week and the meeting will be recorded so that you can listen to it at your convenience.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate these uncharted waters together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Elizabeth McGonagle'.

Liz McGonagle