



Kimberly J. Schneider, Ed. D.
Superintendent

April 27, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Mercer Special Services School District (MCSSSD) is committed to providing your child with educational services via distance learning during this indefinite period of school closure. In accordance with Governor Murphy's emergency regulations, teletherapy will be offered as an additional means of providing related services to your child, based on his/her IEP. This regulation that addresses related services includes speech therapy, occupational therapy and physical therapy.

Teletherapy allows for respective educational specialist and students to engage in live video conferencing. Teletherapy sessions are similar to traditional related services, however, instead of in-person sessions, secure technology platforms such as Google Meet will be utilized to provide instruction to students.

MCSSSD is utilizing Google Meet to provide your child the best access to related services therapists during this unprecedented extended school closure. The District requests your consent for your child's participation in individual or small-group related services through live video conferencing. We ask that the consent form in Google Forms, be signed and submitted.

Your consent indicates the following: Due to the current school closure related to COVID-19, I provide consent for my student's participation in the provision of remote, individual, and/or group related services, understanding that it may be accessed by other students, parents and /or guardians, who may be present or observing the group to assist their student. I am aware that my presence throughout the duration of the session is necessary and that the therapist will verify that a facilitator will be physically present to support the student during the session. Mercer County Special Services School District takes the privacy of each student's information seriously. Students and/or school staff members should not be subject to having a video or audio recording taken of any student(s) or school staff member(s) for any purpose without the consent of the student, the student's parent, and/or the school staff member.

MCSSSD recognizes that the teleservices may not be effective for all students. It is your parental right to opt out of these services or continue with alternative services via Google Classroom in lieu of teleservices. If you have any questions, please contact your therapist and/or case manager to discuss how to best meet the needs of your student.

Thank you for your flexibility and cooperation as we work together as a community in this remote learning journey. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your case manager.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kimberly J. Schneider".

Kimberly J. Schneider, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Parent Teletherapy Consent Form