



Griswold Public Schools

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April 3, 2020

Special Memo: Virtual Learning Options

Dear Parents and Guardians of students with special education eligibility:

During the period of school closure, due to the health emergency related to COVID-19, the Griswold Public Schools will be providing a continuity of educational opportunities to meet the individualized needs of special education students to the greatest extent possible. We will be providing services through a variety of methods including group formats such as video conferencing through various online platforms, most notably Google Hangout. In some cases, these services may be provided in a small group setting with multiple students participating in the video conference format. Please note that correspondence refers to special education virtual settings only, not regular education experiences your child may be participating in.

The names and images of students may be visible to the teacher and/or other participating students. Parents and guardians are encouraged to have their students participate in a location that is quiet and free of distraction, to the best of your ability. To protect student confidentiality, other individuals in the home are not permitted to participate in or be visible on the video, or otherwise observe the lesson, other than to provide reasonable adult supervision of the student. Parents, guardians and students are prohibited from recording the video conferencing session. Should a conference be recorded the teacher has the authority to end the session. All individuals shall comply with relevant board of education policies, including but not limited to those concerning the confidentiality of student records and acceptable use of district computer systems.

Student privacy and confidentiality of student information are of utmost importance. Parents are reminded, however, that the district is not in control of individual homes of participating students.

Small group learning opportunities have begun and will continue throughout the duration of school closure. If you do not wish for your student to participate in these options, please send an email to me at CChamplin@griswoldpublicschools.org. In the opt out email please include your name, your child's name and grade and the reason you are opting out so we can work to devise an alternate plan.

As always, thank you for your continued collaboration and support as we navigate these difficult times together.

Sincerely,

Chris Champlin
Director of Special Education and Pupil Services
Griswold Public Schools