



August 26, 2020

Dear CAPS Families,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! Our special education department is working hard this week to prepare for your children, whether they will be virtual learners or in person. We are beyond excited to see your child and partner with you this year.

The wellbeing and safety of our students and families will remain a priority as we start the year. For those attending in person, Coopersville Area Public Schools has safety precautions in place outlined in our Preparedness Plan found on the district's COVID-19 webpage. We have also been adding precautions to safely provide special education programming and services. The [CAPS Special Education Considerations for Fall 2020](#) outlines additional information for our families. Some highlights include plex-glass dividers for our Ancillary Staff (social work, speech therapy, etc.) and face coverings with clear openings.

Per guidance from the Michigan Department of Education, your child's Case Manager will be reaching out to you starting this week to create a **Contingency Learning Plan**. The plan does not replace or change your child's IEP. This plan will work in tandem with their IEP and be implemented in settings other than the traditional, face-to-face model. This includes if your child is participating in CAPS Virtual. For those attending in person, the Contingency Learning Plan will be active only in the event we move to Phases 1-3 and remote learning. As in the spring, the plan will outline the activities to continue Special Education programs, services, and supplementary aids and services. We will plan to amend your child's IEP to clearly articulate when the Contingency Learning Plan will be triggered. Additionally, we will continue to hold **IEP meetings virtually** while in Phases 1-4 in order to align with our limited visitor policy.

Thank you for your continued support of our special education services! We cannot express enough how grateful we are for your support and partnership. As you prepare your child for returning to school, here are a couple resources you may want to utilize:

- [COVID-19 Social Stories](#)
- [Tips for Supporting Student Wellness During COVID-19](#)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Warm regards,

Autumn Dawdy

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