

## Special Services – Frequently Asked Questions

Below is a list of common questions regarding special services, and answers from the district. Please know we will continue to update and clarify these concerns as more information becomes available. Some questions cannot be answered at this time as further planning and direction from state and local agencies is necessary. We will continue to do our best to communicate the most current and update information as it becomes available.

### **Can students with IEPs, 504 plans, or English Language Learners participate in BSSD Distance Learning?**

Yes, students with IEPs or 504 plans can participate in either BSSD Distance Learning or in-person school.

### **How will the individualized Education process work for distance learning?**

An IEP amendment or IEP meeting will be held to determine goals, accommodations/modifications, accessibility, and services needed through distance learning. Each student will be assigned a special education case manager, and service providers will be assigned based upon the IEP needs of the student. A copy of the IEP will be provided to teachers who are teaching through distance learning.

### **How will 504 plans be implemented through distance learning?**

A 504 plan meeting will be held to determine accommodations/modifications, accessibility, and services needed through distance learning. A copy of the 504 plan will be provided teachers who are teaching through distance learning for implementation.

### **If a student has been participating in a modified curriculum based upon the students IEP, will his/her curriculum continue to be modified for distance learning?**

Yes, students who qualify for a modified curriculum will continue to receive a modified curriculum while participating in distance learning.

### **Will Adapted Physical Education (APE) courses be offered?**

Yes, students who participate in APE will engage in physical activities that allow for social distancing.

### **Will IEP programs focusing upon community-based instruction and working in the community continue to be offered?**

The Special Services department is considering alternatives for meeting student transition needs that would not include going into the community where safety precautions of the general public cannot be guaranteed.

### **How will related services (i.e., speech, language, occupational therapy, physical therapy, counseling, et.) be provided to qualifying students who choose distance learning?**

A student's IEP team or 504 team (which includes parents) will determine if the student will participate in teletherapy, computer activities, or pen/paper activities depending upon a student's unique needs.

### **Will there be exemptions for children with disabilities in regards to wearing a mask?**

The District will follow any federal, state, and local orders. The current Jackson County order we are under has the following exemptions:

- Those who are deaf or hard of hearing
- Children younger than five years old; and

- Children who are younger than two years old should never wear face coverings due to the risk of suffocation.
- Children who are two, three, or four years old, with the assistance and close supervision of an adult, are strongly recommended to wear a face covering at all times in settings, like grocery stores or pharmacies, where it is likely that a distance of at least six feet cannot be maintained from non-household members and vulnerable people must go.
- Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering. This includes, but is not limited to, persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a face covering could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance.

**Who can I contact to discuss my child’s IEP and 504 needs further?**

Contact information for the Special Services Department, including Liggett Trail Education Center, can be found at:

[https://www.bssd.net/o\\_u\\_r\\_d\\_i\\_s\\_t\\_r\\_i\\_c\\_t/about\\_bssd/district\\_departments/special\\_services](https://www.bssd.net/o_u_r_d_i_s_t_r_i_c_t/about_bssd/district_departments/special_services).