



Lexington SEPTA <lexsepta@gmail.com>

LexSEPAC/LexSEPTA Remote Learning Plan Follow Up

LexSEPTA <admin@lexsepta.org>

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Reply-To: LexSEPAC/LexSEPTA Co-Chairs <LexSEPTA@gmail.com>

To: LexSEPTA <lexsepta@gmail.com>



***Parents Supporting Parents of Children with
Special Needs in Lexington Public Schools***

Visit our new website lexsepta.org

Dear Parent Members,

We hope you are doing as well as possible given the current circumstances.

As many of you are aware, LPS released an update to the [Remote Learning Plan](#) on Tuesday that included a link to the current LPS Special Education Remote Learning guidance, you can [view here](#).

As mentioned in the [March 25 email](#) to our LexSEPTA parent email list, we have been in touch with LPS on multiple occasions to share some SPED parent expectations and ideas gathered from representatives of the SEPAC subgroups. This included suggestions for collaboration for service delivery during these unprecedented times. We have raised consistent concerns over student regression, suggested support adaptations, the need for 1:1 and group video services, and the need for SPED students to continue to make progress toward their IEP goals. The Administration invited our feedback willingly and thanked LexSEPAC for the thoughtful feedback, acknowledging it "is a difficult time right now for you and our other SEPAC families".

We agree some of the LPS responses are not the answers we hoped for. As the letter from Dr. Hackett states, in some cases the District is awaiting further clarification and guidance from the State. This is an ongoing process and opportunity for collaboration by LexSEPAC, parents, and the School District. Most importantly communication with your student's Team is crucial.

We are two weeks into the actual Remote Learning plan, commencing March 30, and we know there are still questions and concerns. In response we would like to share the following:

By now someone from your child's team should've been in touch to discuss your IEP and what service delivery will look like for your child while school is not in session.

- If this has not happened, please contact your ETS immediately. [Contact information](#) can be found on lexsepta.org.
- Please copy your ETS on all correspondence with the school, they are the main point of contact for IEP related issues as per Ellen Sugita, Director of Special Education.
- Reach out to your special education liaison and ask for tools, resources or advice on how to use the services provided.

According to guidance set forth by MassPAC and the Federation for Children with Special Needs, we encourage you to accept and try the services that are currently being offered, taking the following into consideration:

- Communicate with your Team about things that are or are not working. Work collaboratively and directly with your Team to improve service delivery. The more suggestions you can give, the easier it will be for your educators to provide more meaningful services for your child.
- The Federation recommends keeping a log of how services are going. [A template is attached](#) for your convenience.

Massachusetts' state law leaves the ultimate decision up to each individual School District to determine how they will move forward with remote learning. If you have feedback you wish to share about how the remote learning plan has been implemented or how services are delivered, we encourage you to communicate directly with the School Committee and the School Administration. We cannot stress how important it is for our school leaders to hear directly from families at this time. Their contact information is located below.

As advisors to the School Committee, we collect and present data to help support the School District's decision making. We will continue to listen to our parent members' concerns and share them with LPS as always. *Please note, LexSEPTA members represent only 10% of the Lexington population of children on IEPs or 504 plans, we can only communicate to members who join on our website.*

Thank you,
Emma Harding & Patricia Jacotin
LexSEPAC/LexSEPTA Co-Chairs

Contact information for School Committee and LPS Administration:
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LPS Administration
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Julie Hackett, Superintendent of Schools
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The Lexington SEPAC is the Special Education Parent Advisory Council, a group of parents with children on IEPs or 504 plans, who meet regularly as a group and also with the LPS administration to advise on the planning, evaluation and development of special education programs in our district.

The LexSEPTA, the Lexington Special Education PTA, supports LexSEPAC, offering parents a way of connecting with one another, valuable speaker events and workshops and also social gatherings with other parents, the school committee and more. LexSEPTA is a 501(c) volunteer-run organization.

Please visit lexsepta.org for a wealth of information about special education, resources and an overview of LPS Programs in our district.

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