Fairfield County ESC’s Support Services in Response to Covid-19

The Fairfield County Educational Service Center is committed to supporting the districts and student we serve throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic and it’s impact on our schools and communities. The document below highlights our initial efforts. This will continue to updated as the school year evolves and we support our districts in planning for next year.

The Fairfield County ESC provides more than 42 consortium classrooms PK-12 that are embedded in our local district’s buildings. In addition, we operate a high school for at-risk youth and a program for students grades K-8 with severe emotional and behavioral challenges in a separate facility. Therefore, our client districts need us to continue to serve our students well.

We are viewing this situation as an opportunity to learn, redesign and improve our ability to impact lives. Here is how we are helping...

**Administrative Services:**

- Our team of administrators and curriculum services have worked collaboratively with school district to identify needs, design solutions and implement professional development and student services to students PK-12.

**Student Services:**

- Our team of intervention specialist have embraced the transition to supporting their students through remote/virtual teaching and learning.

- A variety of programs including Vizzle, ST Math, Imagine learning, XELLO and Test Prep are being utilized to compliment individualized teacher designed instruction delivered through take home packets, Zoom, You Tube, google classroom, phone and video chats.

- Material from a variety of free resources are being leveraged (e.g, WOSU, PBS, National Geographic). Intervention specialists have just completed progress reports for each student they serve.

- Present levels of performance (PLOP) data is being used as a baseline to design and assess student learning, maintenance and mastery of skills.

- The role of Paraprofessionals is also transitioning. Paraprofessionals are being trained to support student learning in novel ways.
For example: One of our Paraprofessionals Jacob Mullins is developing virtual music lessons for students. Jacob's sing along, via YouTube is used along with a sound board he created so that students could play an instrument along with the song. The soundboard has been used in class, so kids are familiar with it.

Here are the links:
https://blerp.com/soundboard/5e7389a04c5e100005ab8197
Instrument Playing song.mp4

• In addition, IEP mad ETR meetings have continued virtually.

Social and Emotional Learning/Mental Health Services:

• A large segment of the population our ESC serves struggles with social, emotional and/or behavioral challenges. During the closure we are very concerned about the well-being of our students. Therefore our intervention specialists are attending to the SEL needs of our students to the greatest extent possible.

• All of our special education classrooms PK-8th grade use PAX and all staff PK-12 are trained in Crisis Prevention Institute strategies and practices. Our teachers have continued to use research-based strategies virtually and have had the opportunity to coach parents in utilizing effective strategies to regulate students and support positive behavior.

• In addition, we are working with our local mental health agency to ramp up their ability to provide telemedicine mental health services to support student and family well-being.

Early Childhood Special Education and Early Learning

• Our Pickerington and Learning Steps PK has transitioned to offer learning materials and virtual learning and therapies to our students and families.

• In addition, last year we led the development of an Early Literacy and Kindergarten Readiness Collaborative. A variety of materials were produced for distribution in Fairfield County to support early learning. Below are links to some of these materials.

Milestone Videos:
Age One Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t7HZxwlbUnQ&feature=youtu.be
Age Two Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=okSTdnQhpBY&feature=youtu.be
Age Three Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkgLRrZZfuM&feature=youtu.be
Age Four Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p4925CpEcRA&feature=youtu.be
Age Five Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQK2Mim1dSE&feature=youtu.be

10 Kindergarten Readiness Skills Videos:
Top Tip #1 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=klfm3DWr47c&feature=youtu.be
Top Tip #2 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_9eBojbTG2s&feature=youtu.be
Top Tip #3 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HdXQ8YmZdNQ&feature=youtu.be
Top Tip #4 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ly66VBeRgQg&feature=youtu.be
Learning and Leadership Development:

- Traditional in person Professional Development is being redesigned and transitioned to virtual platforms. Newly developed professional development has been designed to support teacher and related services personnel as they learn to design and implement virtual learning/therapies.

- Project Based Learning Matters: Our line of professional development and resources to support project-based learning can be found at. [https://www.pblmatters.org/](https://www.pblmatters.org/)
  
  o This site now included a newly designed page with links remote PBL resources to support teachers in their transition to designing rich virtual/remote project based learning experiences for students.

Technology Services:

- The technological capacity and needs of every child served through the ESC has been assessed.
  
  o Gaps in access to technology or connectivity are being problem-solved and addressed.
  
  o Training has been developed and deployed to support teachers, parents and students.

Florida Virtual School: In 2014 the FCESC received a Straight A Fund grant titled Fairfield Advancing Students and Teaching (FAST) Forward. The investments we made in Florida Virtual School site licenses are still paying dividends. These licenses Grades 6-12 are available at no cost for consortium districts. These licenses are also used as a blended learning tool at our Success Center- and alternative High School for at-risk youth.

General Support: Central office support staff remain busy either at-home or serving limited office hours making copies, mailing post cards and packets of materials to students on behalf of teachers and therapists.