Dear Parents or Guardians:

Thank you for your continued patience as we move to in-person services. I have included a planning checklist with this letter to assist families in preparing for school.

We have just learned that any student attending in-person learning must be able to wear a mask. If the student cannot wear a mask, the district must have a note from your doctor. These notes will be sent to Dr. Mark Larson, Kittitas County Health Officer for his review. The form is included with this letter.

**Students must have a note from the doctor if they cannot wear a mask. Students cannot attend school until the doctor’s note is reviewed by Dr. Larson. The note should be emailed to Gemma Wolfenbarger, Special Education Secretary at** **gemma.wolfenbarger@esd401.org** **or sent via mail to Ellensburg School District Special Programs at 1300 East Third Ave. before school begins. The letters will then be sent to Dr. Larson for his review.**

Please review the tentative start-up dates and times for in-person services.

**MMS Lifeskills/Autism Program:** Tentative Date September 9th

Session time: 8:30am-12:00pm, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Paras will deliver services in the afternoons through distance learning or work packets. When all students return to the building, students will have a full day of school (9:15am-3:45pm) on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Services will be distance learning on Wednesdays.

**Elementary Lifeskills/Autism Program:** Tentative Date September 10th

Session times: 8:30-11:00am & 12:30-3:00pm

There will be two sessions with half the class attending in the morning four days per week and the other half in the afternoon. Students will receive services virtually on Wednesdays. When the district is in hybrid students will attend a full-day of school four days per week. Services will be given remotely on Wednesdays.

**Connections Program:** Tentative Date September 10th

Session times: 8:30-11:00am & 12:30-3:00pm

There will be two sessions with half the class attending in the morning four days per week and the other half in the afternoon. Students will receive services virtually on Wednesdays. When the district is in hybrid, students will attend a full-day of school four days per week. Services will be given remotely on Wednesdays.

**EHS Lifeskills/Autism Program:** Tentative Date September 9th

Session times: 8:30-12:00am, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

There will be one session in the morning five days per week. When the district is in hybrid, student will attend a full day of school four days per week. Students will receive services virtually on Wednesdays.

**Resource Room:** Students will be scheduled as soon as possible for small group instruction. Case managers will call parents as soon as possible.

**Virtual Academy:** Pearl Rossi is the Special Education teacher for students accessing services virtually. Pearl has begun the communication process with parents. Those students having difficulty accessing specially designed instruction will have an IEP meeting to determine if in-person services would better serve the student.

**Developmental Preschool**: Tentative Date: September 14th

Students will receive one-to-one services at a minimum of one 90-minute session per week. Due to the need to social distance and the challenge of wearing masks, services will be offered in an outdoor environment setting at the Developmental Preschool. A case manager will be in touch with you. Students will need a note from their doctor if he/she cannot wear a mask.

**Communication/Occupational Therapy:** Services will be held through teletherapy and/or in-person services. Case managers of students who are speech/language only students will call parents soon.

Please do not hesitate to call or email me if there are questions.

Sincerely,

Patty Kimmel

Director of Special Programs

Patty.kimmel@esd401.org

509.925.8117