



**Kansas State School for the Blind
1100 State Ave.
Kansas City, KS 66102**

3.27.20

Parents/Guardians:

We hope you have remained safe and healthy this past week. If you need help with food or resources in your local community, most districts are providing breakfast and lunch to students free of charge. If you need other help, please contact me at 913.645.5456 and we can connect you to the right resource.

You and your student should have received a call from one of our teachers/staff this past week, asking you for the type of assistance/instruction that would serve you best. With that feedback in hand, KSSB has developed a *draft* of our 'continuous learning plan', which has to be approved by the State Board of Education by April 15th. The draft plan can be found here: <https://bit.ly/33R5tzH>. The plan is fluid, and will require a lot of adjustments as we go. Let us know what is working, and what is not working, for you.

We are offering smaller blocks of 'core content' instruction for KSSB students using Zoom, SeeSaw, email, and basic software. We are also offering 'extra-curricular' content for any student across the state who is blind or visually impaired. These classes include: STEM/podcasting, career exploration, public speaking, health and wellness, and a "lunch bunch" social time. You can register for these classes here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/18GMpXaQyaJMdl2fERzFJfTHh6VQCdP0pja8vsntv1ek/edit?ts=5e7d70e7>

Your student should receive a "class schedule" with specific information prior to Monday. This will include the days and times for each class, how to connect, and any tools that might be needed. You and your students will undoubtedly have questions, and that is to be expected. Start by contacting your teachers and don't hesitate to call me if you're feeling 'stuck' or frustrated at 913.645.5456. Staff emails can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2Uot1sP>

Our goal is to provide some reassurance and rebuild the relationships between teachers and students that have been disrupted by this pandemic. We do not wish to create additional stress, so know that your students' emotional well-being takes precedence over academics.

Once again, student IEPs will be held via Zoom and/or phone and we intend to honor those deadlines, just as before. Deb Howser, our Director of Special Education, will be coordinating these efforts with our case managers, and we will do our best to accommodate your schedule. Deb can be reached at the number and email listed at the bottom of this letter.

KSSB is here to help you, and we will do our best to communicate regularly. Please follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/KSBlind/>; our website <https://kssb.net/>; and on Twitter @KansasBlind.

Sincerely,

Jon Harding, Superintendent, jharding@kssdb.org; 913.645.5456

Aundrayah Shermer, Director of Field Services ashermer@kssdb.org; 913.209.0986

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