



# Midwest Special Education Cooperative

ISD #0398 - 203 S Columbia Ave Morris, MN 56267 Ph: 320-589-4248 Fax: 320-589-0435

## Distance Learning Program Guidance for Students with Disabilities

**Wheaton Area Schools** recognizes the unique circumstances and challenges distance learning brings for teachers, administrators, families and students with disabilities. This guidance is provided as a resource to support the implementation of the Distance Learning Day Program. The suggestions in this document can be applied when planning for all students with disabilities.

### Considerations:

When determining how to provide the requisite services to students with disabilities on distance learning days, it is ideal to begin the planning process by considering the needs of children and families. Special education and related service providers should work collaboratively to address the following questions:

- What is the overall plan for distance learning days?
- What is the plan for parent communication?
- What standards, activities, technology, etc. are teachers using?

As the above questions are answered, special education staff will be able to determine which plans and resources can be modified and can identify areas that will require supplemental or additional planning for students with disabilities.

### Planning:

#### Logistics

Planning for distance learning days requires thoughtful, open, and on-going communication among administrators, teachers, related service, and parents. The complex needs of each student must be considered when planning for students with disabilities, and individualized plans may be needed. The following is a list of topics to consider

- IEP goal needs
- Related services
- Assistive technology needs
- Communication

#### Lessons

Planning lessons for distance learning days follow the same general structure as planning face-to-face instruction.

### Additional Information

#### Participating School Districts

Browns Valley #801 - Chokio-Alberta #771 - Clinton-Graceville-Beardsley #2888 - Hancock #768  
Herman-Norcross #264 - Morris Area #2769 - West Central Area #2342 - Wheaton #803



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An addendum (Individual Distance Learning Plan – IDLP) to the student Individual Education Program (IEP) and a Prior Written Notice (PWN) will be sent to the parents. The addendum to the IEP will include the student's IEP goals and what services will be provided in the event of distance learning. This addendum/distance learning plan could take different forms dependent upon the needs of the student.

The Individual Distance Learning Plan (IDLP) will include details specific to each student's programming to meet the individual needs of each child.

## Suggestions

The following are possible suggestions:

- Use social stories to help students with social skills IEP goals
- Utilize technology students currently use during face-to-face instruction
- Focus on communication with parents early in the planning process
- Include assistive technology (AT) in modules/lessons, if the student is using AT in the classroom
- Reiterate the availability of assistance so students and parents can contact teachers
- Students may need some learning packets or manipulatives to complete activities

## Resources:

### Parent Resources

Hand-picked, age-appropriate media suggestions to keep the whole family engaged.

- [Best Music Apps and Games for Kids](#)
- [New Kids' TV Shows](#)
- [50 Books All Kids Should Read Before They're 12](#)
- [Best Family Movies](#)
- [Common Sense Selections](#) highlighting the best movies and TV shows
- [Sibling Watch-Together TV](#)
- [Best Documentaries for Kids and Families](#)

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## Resources for at-home learning

Tools to help parents and caregivers keep kids focused and learning at home.

- [17 Apps to Help Kids Stay Focused](#)
- [Apps That Act Like Math and Science Tutors for Homework Help](#)
- [Free Educational Apps, Games, and Websites](#)
- [Top Time-Management Apps](#)
- [BrainPop](#)
- [Epic](#)
- [Raz-Kids](#)

## Stress-management resources

- When everything feels overwhelming, check out [tips for taking in rapidly changing news](#).
- De-stress together with [meditation apps for kids and families](#).
- Get the blood flowing and elevate the mood with these [25 dance games](#) (you might need to buy a special control from Amazon).
- [Apps, websites, and video games](#) that inspire running, jumping, and more to stay active.
- Don't forget to enjoy a [device-free dinner](#) or two.

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