

Olga Hugelmeyer Superintendent of Schools

November 23, 2020

Dear Elizabeth Public Schools Autism Program Families:

Our pledge to our learning community has been to reopen schools responsibly while exceeding minimum expectations to put health and safety first for our learning community and providing high-quality instruction to our students.

On November 9, based on metrics at that time and guidance from health officials, we were prepared and officially opened our doors to provide in-person learning support to our autism program students in Phase I, using recommended health and safety protocols to make the transition safely and responsibly. While those efforts have been successful, in continued monitoring of those metrics, the days that have followed have shown a rapid increase in coronavirus cases within the greater community and beyond.

In consultation with local health officials, our Autism Program will be transitioning back to a fully remote learning environment effective after school today, November 23. Our Special Services supervisors and Child Study Team members will be reaching out to our autism program parents this week with further information.

These actions come as a result of the climbing coronavirus cases and a shared responsibility of slowing the spread of the virus. I encourage you all to stay safe and healthy by following the current directed health measures, including wearing face coverings, maintaining a 6-foot distance from people outside your household, and avoiding gatherings when possible.

Thank you for your patience and support as we work together to get through these challenging times. Stay safe and be well.

Sincerely,

Olga Hugelmeyer