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Christan Schrader
Director

To: Parents/Guardians of the Center Program Students

From: Christan Schrader, Director

Date: August 18, 2020

Re: Calendar Change to Remote Learning

The BHASED Superintendent's Advisory Committee and Governing Board have approved a recommendation to change the school calendar for the Black Hawk Area Education Center to full remote learning for all students until Labor Day. All Black Hawk Area Education Center students will participate in remote learning beginning August 20th through September 8th, which will be the first day scheduled for in-person learning

The recommendation to move the Center program to full remote learning was made in light of new guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education regarding COVID screening, and other safety measures that especially impact in-person work with medically fragile students. It will permit more time to make sure that staffing is adequate, and will allow teams to review plans for individual students to address the safety measures that must be followed. This recommendation was made after much thoughtful discussion as we are very aware of the challenges this may cause some families.

Please know that the safety of all of our students and staff are a top priority and we are hoping to be able to bring students back to school in person safely very soon.

To that end, the back to school Back Pack night scheduled for Wednesday August 19th has been postponed at this time. Device pickup is still available and if families have a new need for a technology device, please reach out to the Center office or your child's teacher and we will make arrangements to get your child an appropriate device.

The District will continue to review and monitor the guidance published by the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health, with the goal of planning for a safe and productive continuation of our instructional program after this period of remote learning. We will keep parents informed about our decision-making process and will alert you of any changes or alterations to our plan prior to September 8.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through this process together.