

San Dieguito

Union High School District

Board of Trustees

Joyce Dalessandro
Kristin Gibson
Beth Hergesheimer
Melisse Mossy
Maureen "Mo" Muir

Superintendent

Robert A. Haley, Ed.D.

710 Encinitas Boulevard, Encinitas, CA 92024
Telephone (760) 753-6491
www.sduhsd.net

Special Education Department
Fax (760) 634-0676

April 14, 2020

Dear families with students entering San Dieguito Union High School District (SDUHSD) ,

This letter is to connect with families of students with individualized education programs (IEP) who plan to matriculate to the San Dieguito Union High School District for the 2020-2021 school year. I wanted to reach out to connect with you directly during this time of uncertainty that is impacting our world, to inform you of how the District plans to ensure your student's successful transition to the high school district.

As you know, these are uncharted waters and there are a lot of unknowns right now. SDUHSD is working constantly to stay current on the regularly changing and updated guidance from the San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE), the California Department of Education (CDE) and the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE), as well as federal, state and local health officials. The District's Board and administration are doing their best to align decisions with the above listed guidance in order to minimize the pandemic's impact on our community and foster the health and safety of our students and staff while also attempting to continue with some form of normalcy, including learning and other educational endeavors.

To that end, SDUHSD and its feeder school districts typically hold in-person meetings for all students entering the District with an IEP. That is not feasible this year, given the [San Diego County Health and Human Services "Stay at Home" order](#) therefore the previously scheduled transition meetings will be cancelled at this time. Please understand that the exceptional circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic are ever-evolving and we are doing our very best to shift with the constant changes. It is critical, at this time, for SDUHSD to devote all efforts to ensuring students and their families are supported with their Distance Learning Plans. Accordingly, we wanted to inform you of the efforts that have been made, and will continue, nevertheless to ensure as smooth a transition as possible in this unknown and incredibly tumultuous time.

SDUHSD has been working with your student's current District since December 2019 to prepare for a smooth transition to SDUHSD for your student and has continued to do so since the pandemic required

school closures. Some steps that have already occurred between your student’s current District and SDUHSD include:

- District Director collaboration regarding transition process
- Program Supervisors collaboration and transition process facilitation
- Teacher to Teacher meetings
 - Education Specialists direct collaboration about each student
 - Discussed and reviewed current IEPs, recent assessment reports, etc.
- SDUHSD hosted Special Education Information Presentations (for incoming families) at elementary Districts in February 2020
 - This presentation can be accessed through this [link](#) or on the SDUHSD Special Education webpage
- SDUHSD school sites hosted Parent Articulation Nights and Presentations during February and March 2020

In absence of the afore-mentioned transition meetings, SDUHSD staff will continue to collaborate with your student’s current District team as much as possible and necessary to keep informed of any changes to your students IEP and/or needs. Additionally you can expect to receive an interim placement offer from SDUHSD as soon as possible after your student’s records are released to us. We anticipate, under current pandemic restrictions, those interims would be completed in July 2020. We will let you know if that changes as we all work together to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.

Ensuring your student has a successful transition to SDUHSD remains immensely important to all involved even in these challenging times. Please be assured that we will continue to revisit all decisions as further guidance is provided, search for alternate opportunities to provide you with any further information necessary and provide supportive transition activities to your student as school sites become accessible again; more information about those opportunities will be shared as possible. We understand that this transition process will look different than you were expecting and that may be disappointing; please know that it is disappointing to us as well and we too are doing our best during this challenging time. I ask that you work with us as we try the very best we can to navigate this very unique time together. We are committed to ensuring everyone feels as supported and informed as possible within the parameters set for us by state and local health departments.

Please contact us if you have specific questions or concerns that your current District team cannot answer related to your student with disabilities transition to SDUHSD. We have created a survey, [linked here](#), to facilitate that input or you can reach out directly to our program supervisors, listed below by school site.

Schools:	Program Supervisor:	Email:
EWMS and LCCHS	Jesse Mindlin	jesse.mindlin@sduhsd.net
TPHS	Kellie Maul	kellie.maul@sduhsd.net
OCMS and PTMS	Jennifer Havlat	jennifer.havlat@sduhsd.net

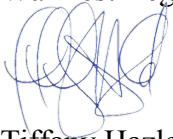
DNO and CCA	Nathan Molina	nathan.molina@sduhsd.net
Seaside and SDA	Monica Davey	monica.davey@sduhsd.net
ATP and CVMS	Mallory Thau	mallory.thau@sduhsd.net
District Support-Coordinator	Robin Ross	robin.ross@sduhsd.net
District Spanish Translator/Interpreter	Carmen Blum	carmen.blum@sduhsd.net

District administrators and essential staff, who are also facing the crisis' impact in their own families and lives, appreciate your patience in receiving a response which will be provided as quickly as possible.

Please also remember we are each doing our best in a very challenging time that impacts each of our families and lives uniquely and to different extents. Be good to yourself and your neighbors, knowing that whatever you are doing, you are doing great and it is enough.

Notice of your procedural safeguards as the parent of a child with a disability is available on the SDUHSD Special Education webpage. Please feel free to contact me or any of those listed above with questions as to them. We are all in this together, and we look forward to our future partnerships as IEP team members in support of your child's needs.

Warmest Regards,



Tiffany Hazlewood, M. Ed
 Director of School and Student Services
 tiffany.hazlewood@sduhsd.net