



Bayshore Jointure Commission The Shore Center

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www.theshorecenter.org

Dear Shore Center Families,

May 20, 2020

I hope that this letter finds all of you and your loved ones healthy and safe. With the nice weather and some of the outdoor restrictions being eased, I hope that many of you have been able to take a break in the backyard or enjoyed a walk safely in order to break up some of the monotony we are all feeling in this restricted environment.

Here are some important updates:

Memorial Day

As per the school calendar, there will be no remote instruction on Monday, May 25, 2020 in observance of Memorial Day. Please enjoy this day with your family and take a much needed brain break from instruction.

Last Day of School

This year, we did not use any of our emergency closure days for inclement weather or other emergencies. Therefore, at our May meeting, the Board of Directors approved the revision to the school calendar making the last day of instruction for students Wednesday, June 17, 2020. The administrators and staff have some fun, virtual, school-wide events planned for the last days of school that we hope you will enjoy.

Extended School Year (ESY)

After much deliberation, consultation with local school leaders, the County offices of Education, and review of the Center for Disease Control's guidance on school openings, we have made the decision to remain in a **virtual/remote environment for ESY**. Our student population is obviously unique. The current guidelines around social distancing, restrictions on gatherings, sanitation and cleaning guidelines and other necessary steps we would need to take to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff, and families become even more complicated when planning for the needs of our students. The Board, administration and staff all want to make sure that when we are able to return to school, we can meet both the required health and safety guidelines while delivering the same high-quality instruction, services, programs and support that are expected at the Shore Center. At this time, with so many uncertainties and unanswered questions about this virus, we did not feel that we could meet those benchmarks and safely re-open in time for ESY.

This decision was not taken lightly. There is nothing that we would like more than to be able to bring our students back to the building. I understand that for some families, a virtual/remote ESY program may change your decision regarding participation in the program. If you have decided

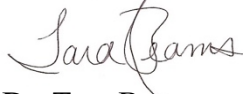
that this environment is not right for your student over the summer, please make sure that you discuss that decision with your child's case manager and Mrs. Jordan or Ms. Monteleone so that we can plan accordingly. Once the details of our ESY programming are finalized, we will share them with all of our families so that you are prepared to support your children over the summer and can see how we will implement ESY programming remotely.

Please know that we are working diligently on our re-opening plan for September. As more information regarding health guidelines and guidance from the Governor's office and the Department of Education becomes available, we will update you on where we are in the planning stage and continue to communicate with all families to ensure that we are prepared to welcome your student back to a safe and healthy environment.

Thank you for your patience, understanding and continued support during this time. Again, if there is anything that we can do to help ease this difficult time, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher, the building leadership, or to me directly.

Please stay healthy and take care of one another.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tara Beams".

Dr. Tara Beams

Acting Superintendent