Dear Parents/Guardians,

By separate communication, you received notice of the decision to close school through, at least, April 3, 2020. Pinkerton Academy is working with your School District to make its best efforts to support all students during this closure and will work to maintain skills for students. This will involve electronic, telephonic, and video access to our teachers, case managers, and service providers. If you prefer we not utilize video conferencing for individual service delivery, please let your student’s case coordinator know. In that case, we would do our best to utilize other means to connect with your student. The staff will collaborate together to help support education planning for your student during school closure. We recognize that during this closure, we may not be able to provide the same level of special education services that your student receives in their school setting. However, we will strive to provide your student with equal access to educational opportunities while respecting the health and safety of your family.

Staff will be reaching out frequently to speak with parents, guardians, and caretakers about the educational programming for your student. Our case coordinators, service providers, and paraprofessionals will collaborate and communicate with classroom teachers and families to support the learning plans and activities teachers are developing for students. Together, we will seek to creatively make the best of this challenging set of circumstances.

We are working to develop a system so IEP team meetings can be done through conference calls and plan to hold meetings that have been scheduled with you participating by phone. Our office staff will be reaching out to you.
It is our hope that we will be able to support each student's special education programming needs during this period of closure. However, that may not be possible in all cases. Depending on your student’s educational need and whether we have been able to offer the necessary programming, we would work with your school districts to discuss potential remedial opportunities. If you have a concern of this nature please connect with your student’s case coordinator. Case Coordinators will notify your district's LEA upon our return to school, district LEAs will then reach out to you. This may take the form of just a conversation if mutually agreeable or an IEP Team meeting. Once again, the decision as to what is appropriate for each student may differ and will be an individualized determination.

These contingent plans are designed to support your student’s individualized education and to enhance your student’s access to an appropriate education. We acknowledge that educational planning occurs through the IEP Team process and nothing about these plans are intended to supplant or replace the individualized educational planning for your student.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,

The Special Education Department