



GLTS

Greater Lawrence Technical School

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Kate Burnham
Director of Special Education

Hello Class of 2024 Parents and Students,

It is exciting to think that you are only a few short weeks away from beginning your high school journey at GLTS. As exciting as it is, I am sure there are so many questions and “wonders” about what freshman year will bring. Families are being contacted to set up IEP amendment meetings, to ensure the location of your students placement reflects GLTS on their IEP, and any necessary amendments are made to ensure they receive FAPE (Free and Appropriate Public Education) in the LRE (Least Restrictive Environment). Please be sure to attend these meetings to assist that services are in place at the start of the school year. This is also a time that families may ask any questions regarding the start of school, and we will do our best to answer them. If you are unable to attend the scheduled meeting the district will work with you to amend the IEP either by rescheduling the meeting or a phone conversation.

There are many discussions taking place to ensure that students safety is at the forefront of all decisions regarding the start of the school year. The Commissioner of Education, Jeff Riley, has released guidelines for Massachusetts schools and the Commissioner of Special Education, Russell Johnston, has now released specific guidelines for students with disabilities. These guidelines are being reviewed in depth and will be implemented as part of the school opening plan. The Special Education Department is dedicated to providing your students support for their disability related needs as outlined in their last signed and accepted IEP, whether that is in the school building or remotely. Below are links with further information for families to review and resources to access.

I look forward to meeting and working with our new Reggie families. Please feel free to reach out to the Special Education Office with any questions or concerns.

Be Well!

Kate Burnham
Director of Special Education

The links below take you to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Website. This sight provides all documents in a wide variety of languages.

Special Education School Reopening Guidelines:

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/on-desktop/2020-0709special-ed-comp-guide-memo.docx>

Parent Resources:

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/parents.html?section=sped-idea>

A fully integrated school that teaches our students the transfer and application of knowledge and skills, empowers them to be self-reliant and to advocate for themselves, and supports the belief that they have control over future success.