

Executive Offices
Community Services
Adult Training Services
Family Services
Durand Foundation

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School
230 N. Evergreen Avenue
Woodbury, NJ 08096
856-845-0666
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Thrift Store
549 N. Evergreen Avenue
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856-845-8910
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Dear Durand Families and Guardians,

November 17, 2020

As many of you may be aware, COVID cases in the state of New Jersey, as well as across the country, are rising as the second surge is upon us. During the New Jersey Governor's COVID debriefing, Thursday, November 11, he stated "this is a wake-up call" for all of us. In light of this news, Durand's Pandemic Team met this week to review all available recommendations, recent school closures in the local counties we serve, increasing infection rates in these same counties, and recommendations from Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania (CHOP), as well as the CDC and the Department of Health (DOH). As a result, Durand has decided to move forward with extreme caution, and will be transitioning to an all virtual service as of November 23, 2020, and returning to the hybrid model on January 19, 2021. This coming week will allow staff time to prepare all materials needed during this time, and for you to prepare for this schedule change. Necessary material will be sent home with your learner.

Starting today, you will begin to see technology if your learner has not accessed our software since the last shut-down, hands-on manipulatives from your classroom teacher, special area teachers and related service personnel. In addition, your classroom teacher will be providing you a hard copy, and an electronic copy, of your child's schedule with all necessary Zoom links. Your child's schedule will remain the same as discussed in August. There may be very minor changes to related services, and this will be communicated by your learner's classroom teacher.

As always, you can contact your Durand social worker, Jillian Bianco (j.bianco@durandac.org) and Sammy Jo Branningan (s.branningan@durandac.org) or me via email (j.mceaddy@durandac.org) or via my cell phone at 856-371-2792. Please do not hesitate to contact myself or your social work to help support your learner and your family as we transition to all virtual.

In closing, we wish we did not have to make this decision. But with all the new information now available, we realized our choices were to go virtual now, in a planful manner, or wait for the inevitable closure due to some exposure emergency. We have chosen to prepare properly, and protect our common health. Let's all hope for much better times, and soon.



Jennifer McEaddy, M.Ed., BCBA

Durand Principal