



March 26, 2020

OPT-OUT FORM FOR EVC & NRP STUDENTS DURING VIDEO-CONFERENCING AT HOME

Parents and Guardians of Students with Special Needs:

As we confront the many challenges caused by the Coronavirus pandemic and school closures, EASTCONN has quickly adopted schooling-from-home strategies, so that our students can maintain their learning goals and continue their education.

Please know that during these online learning sessions, we will continue to provide your child with both special education services and related services, to the greatest extent possible, as we work to maintain equity and educational access for all students.

We have also been following instructions from the Office for Civil Rights, the Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Department of Education and the State Department of Education. We want to be transparent with you regarding all the services we will provide, through a variety of online platforms and methods, including: recorded messages; tele-conferencing; video-conferencing; and assigned work through Google Classroom and other sources. Video-conferencing may be provided in a group setting, with multiple students participating in the video conference. Student names and video images will be visible to the teacher and other participating students, only. Your student's case manager will reach out to you directly to inform you of the specific plan for educating your child during school closures.

We encourage you to have your child participate in video-conferencing lessons, using a location that is quiet and free of distraction, as much as possible. **Other members of your household are not permitted to participate in, or be visible on, the video-conferencing calls, or otherwise observe the lesson, other than to offer reasonable adult supervision.** Parents and students are prohibited from recording video-conferencing sessions. Confidentiality is important for all students and families.

Please help EASTCONN maintain all children's privacy, including that of your own child.

If you do not wish for your child to participate in the video-conferencing portions of our schooling-from-home plan, please respond to this email, and let us know as soon as possible.

Or, call your child's principal (names and numbers below) to let them know that your child is opting out of video-conferencing sessions with their teachers:

**EVC Principal Gregory Biggs at 860-934-6684.
NRP Principal Kurt Mias at 860-710-8228.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Amy Margelony'.

Amy Margelony
EASTCONN Director of Pupil Services