



# RIDGEWOOD

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## PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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### **Overview and Expectations for Our Students & Families: Related Service Therapies (TX) Re-entry, Fall, 2020**

#### **Overview:**

Ridgewood Public School Related Service Programs, Occupational therapy (OT), physical therapy (PT), Speech-Language Services (SLS), Counseling/Social Skill & Behavioral Therapy Providers will provide appropriate in-person and remote tx services in conjunction with school district's re-entry plan.

The Ridgewood Public School will re-enter with both hybrid in-person/remote instruction and remote learning models for our students.

Related service providers will be delivering services a minimum of 1x/week, with two exceptions: 1) for remote only students, services will too be delivered also remotely; and 2) if the family who choose the hybrid model identified that their preference is for the services to be delivered in the remote format it is our intention to schedule this to the best of our ability.

There are related service providers who are working in-district and additional contracted service providers to support the district's goal to ensure one session in person to provide personalized direct instruction and to more clearly assess students' performance.

There are related service providers who will be servicing students remotely who may be assigned students that they wouldn't traditionally been assigned due to the family's preference for the remote-only platform. Groups may not be the same for in-person and remote services based on the complexity of schedules.

Should the district need to move to a solely remote only format, all special education and related services will be provided remotely and schedules will need to be adjusted accordingly. Additionally, if your family changes your child's learning model, please let us know as we may need to adjust related services accordingly.

We will be routinely reviewing the provision of services. Should we determine we can safely allocate space and equal opportunity to do so, we may expand to more in-person related service time into the afternoon after students have been dismissed.

#### **Therapy Provider(s):**

Your child's related service provider will contact you to identify themselves. Your child may have two providers for the same related service: one therapist who provides the service in-person and another who provides the additional remote services (if your child

receives TX more than 1x/wk). *The remote therapist will be the designated contact person for organization and communication for that service.*

### **Schedule:**

There will be a set, predictable related service schedule. Please keep the calendar schedule provided and the Google Meet link as it is a dedicated link (will be the same one to sign into each time). We are planning on scheduling for a month at a time.

Sessions will not be rescheduled if student/family does not attend the session,

Schedule of related services is aligned within the school day, while there may be some flexibility, typically by no later than 3pm.

### **Student:**

Please have your child prepared, dressed/fed, and have any materials needed available within their workspace on time. Try to avoid bathroom & snack breaks during scheduled tx.

We have every confidence that your child will participate to the best of their ability and complete any follow up work as assigned.

### **Parents:**

Please follow the confidentiality guidelines as agreed to in the online return to school packet.

We appreciate the help in setting your child up for success in remote learning and also wish for them to participate independently to the best of their ability.

If you would like for a once monthly component of your child's therapy session to be scheduled dedicated to parent training of skills, we can add this to our goals.

We will also be adding monthly Virtual Office Hours if families are interested as that may be a better time to review skill acquisition/development, goals, and demonstrate strategies, we welcome you to attend.

### **Home Environment:**

Reduce background noise and visual distractions (turn off TV's, phones appliances, close doors to adjoining rooms); others in the home know not to disturb the lesson.

Identify and maintain a dedicated space for remote learning.

### **Technology:**

Make sure that the computer, laptop or tablet has a good charge or plugged in.

Check that no other programs are running on the computer.

Adjust the monitor so that it is in a position to maximize the interaction and environment

## **Communication**

Make sure our staff have your correct contact information to communicate, clarify, and trouble-shoot any issues or concerns.

*This will be challenging until the schedule has been finalized and we thank you in advance for your patience and continued communication so that we may meet our students' needs.*

*Thank you!*