



**OAKLAND MILITARY INSTITUTE
COLLEGE PREPARATORY ACADEMY**

3911 Lusk Street | Oakland, CA 94608 | 510 594 3900 | oakmil.org

March 26, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

On Friday, March 17, 2020, the Oakland Military Institute College Preparatory Academy (OMI) staff, students, and parents received notification that as of 3:07 p.m. that day, all in-person classes were cancelled starting on March 16, 2020. The school closure was due to the state's and nation's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The OMI Leadership Team, in conjunction with the OMI Board of Directors have been reviewing the guidance that is being disseminated constantly at the federal and state levels. As the Superintendent mentioned in his announcement on March 22, 2020, OMI's goals during this school closure include the continued education of our students, which will be offered through various distance-learning methods. These methods will include Google Classroom, Zoom, and other virtual methods to meet our student needs. Special education services will be offered through similar methods.

Special Education Services. On Friday, March 20, 2020, the California Department of Education (CDE) released updated guidance on delivering services to students with disabilities during school closures. The federal government has not waived requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), however, the United States Department of Education (USDOE) has issued [guidance](#) on this topic and a [fact sheet](#). Local educational agencies (LEAs) should, to the best of their ability, adhere to IDEA requirements, with CDE acknowledging these challenging circumstances and committed to a reasonable approach to compliance monitoring. The CDE has also released a Frequently Asked Questions webpage, click [here](#). We recommend that you review that webpage for more information.

The CDE recommends that "LEAs should do their best in adhering to IDEA requirements, including federally mandated timelines, to the maximum extent possible." The CDE expects LEAs to serve all students, including students with disabilities, during closure.

Special Education Service Delivery. In an effort to follow the recommendations from the CDE, the OMI Special Education Team has created Google Classrooms for the students within special education. Members of the team will be creating virtual sessions to provide special education services. Students will be invited to those sessions. We are aware that distance learning is a new form of learning for our students. We will be providing support to our students and to you during this transition.

Chromebooks and Wi-Fi/Internet Access. Oakland Military Institute will provide, with parent consent, a Chromebook for students to access Google Classroom and complete assignments. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to see [COVID -19 Student Chromebook Distribution & Internet Options for Families](#).





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OMI Website. As the Superintendent stated, there will be constant interchange of information and services through the OMI website, school loop and when appropriate, other means of communication. The Leadership Team will be providing daily updates through the website and school loop. It is imperative if you are not getting messages, to please contact the school by emailing reverett@omiacademy.org. The website will have a question and answer section that is monitored to answer questions related to school closure and the resumption of normal activities.

Additionally, your Special Education Department is working on compiling a list of resources for students and parents. That list will be on the Special Education Department page on the OMI website at <https://www.oakmil.org/apps/pages/specialeducation>

Breakfast and Lunch Program. OMI Leadership is aware that your child may have been accessing the meal program at school. OMI resumed its breakfast and lunch program starting March 24 from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

IEP Meetings. As you have heard from the Governor of California, it is unknown the date that students will be returning to school. We are also waiting on guidance from our OMI Board of Directors regarding the length of the closure for OMI. We hope to be scheduling Individualized Education Program (IEP) team meetings soon. You will be receiving an email with details on how the meeting will be scheduled. Due to the Governor's 'shelter-in-place' order and the guidance from the various health agencies, our IEP meetings will be held virtually.

A list of our Special Education Team members can be found on our Special Education Department page. You can also review a short biography for employees to learn more about them.

We appreciate your flexibility and understanding as we continue to identify the best delivery of special education services to meet your child's needs.

Feel free to contact me about questions regarding or any other questions. You can contact me at pkucer@omiacademy.org.

Sincerely,
Priscilla Kucer, Psy.S., NCSP, Ph.D.
Special Education Director

CC: Superintendent, Commandant, Principal

