

Clark County School District

School Closures Related to COVID-19

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Guidance

Background Information

Personnel in the Interpreting Services Department are working to provide practical guidance for school personnel regarding the obligations extended to students who are deaf or hard of hearing during school closures related to COVID-19. Additional support and guidance may be accessed through personnel in the Interpreting Services Department at 702-799-8660.

This guidance aligns to the information provided by the Nevada Department of Education regarding responsibility and accountability for students and staff who are deaf and hard of hearing during distance education that requires the district to:

- Provide accommodations for students and staff who are deaf and hard of hearing during this period of time;
- Communicate proactively with teachers of students who are deaf and hard of hearing during school closures on this and other related matters impacting students.

Instructional Supports and Resources

During school closures, interpreting services can be supported through distance education by utilizing these resources to support students and staff who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Requesting an Interpreter

Interpreters can be requested by using the following link: [Interpreter Request Form](#). All requests must be submitted at least 24 hours in advance to ensure that an interpreter is assigned. Please include the link to the Google Meet or other approved digital meeting platform. This allows the interpreter to join the meeting remotely in real time to interpret.

Best Practices

Pin the interpreter: Please have the participant who is deaf or hard of hearing “pin” the interpreter so the interpreter stays on the screen while others are talking. This can be done by having the participant use the mouse to hover over the screen of the interpreter and clicking the thumbtack icon that appears.

Use Captions: Real time captioning is available through Google Meet as well as other platforms. Please ensure that the participant who is deaf or hard of hearing has captions enabled. This provides an extra level of access in addition to the interpreter. Individuals who primarily lipread when they communicate will find this feature the most beneficial and may choose to use only captions instead of an interpreter.

Additional Resources

[Tips For Distance Learning with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students](#)

Shared by Emmelyn Stieb, Itinerant TOD in Texas.

[How to Caption Your Videos](#)