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# MEMO

**To: Counselors, Psychologists, and School Social Workers**

**From: Special Education Department**

**Date: March 18, 2020**

**Re: Mental Health Initiatives and Activities Updates**

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Amid the recent shutdown of Dearborn Public Schools, we would like to ensure that the social and emotional supports for students are available. The emotional impact of an emergency on a child depends on a child's characteristics, developmental ages, and experiences. Thus, not all children respond to a crisis in the same way. In addition to school social workers providing resources for families and students that they service, Dearborn Public Schools will make a hotline available for students and/or parents who are struggling in coping with COVID-19 issues that might cause anxiety, fear, and stress in our families. The hotline will be supported by 4-6 staff members daily. Counselors, Psychologists, and School Social Workers will be afforded the opportunity to sign up for a time and day of the week they would be available to support. Additional Information regarding the hotline:

- Disclaimer and parental consent must be provided before speaking to student or family
- The voice recording will state if it is an emergency, families must hang up and dial 911
- Parents can call 313-827-8500 or email [dss@dearbornschools.org](mailto:dss@dearbornschools.org) if assistance is needed
- If a follow-up session is necessary, it will be scheduled by the appropriate provider

We want to thank you for your dedication to our students and families. Just as teachers are committed to the academic welfare of students, we are equally committed to their social-emotional welfare in order to feel safe and able to learn.

Please refer to the district website for any up to date current information regarding school news and events including updates regarding the social emotional hotline.

CC: Dearborn Public School Administrators

Extended Cabinet

Jane Maza

DFT Employees

