



***4/22/2020 – COVID-19 Update from [Amy C. Sousa, Chief Executive Officer](#)***

Dear Guild School Community,

As anticipated, Governor Baker announced yesterday that Massachusetts public and private schools will remain closed through the remainder of the school year.

As with the Governor's previous directives, the closure order does not force special education schools to adjourn; however, the Governor and public health officials are clear that there is "no authoritative guidance how to operate schools safely" at present. Therefore, The Guild School's Concord building will remain closed to students through May 30, 2020. At that time, we will reassess the safety and public health environment in order to make decisions about when to reopen the school building to students.

In the meantime, The Guild will offer remote learning for day students and those who remain at home and we will deliver school curriculum in our residential group homes. The Guild School will continue with each student's remote learning plan, including access to curriculum, specialists, teachers, and peers. The Guild will remain available for electronic IEP meetings. In addition, The Guild will work with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as well as adult service funders to advocate for extended lengths of stay for residential students turning 22 years old during this unusual time.

I know that we all yearn for answers to when this crisis will end. The Guild will continue to assess the public health environment and think critically about the needs, vulnerability, and quality of life for the people we serve in light of the ever-changing circumstances related to COVID-19. We will keep you informed as we move forward with decisions.

If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to your student's educational, residential and clinical team members for support. As always, you are welcome to contact me directly.

Take care,

Amy C. Sousa

Chief Executive Officer

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