



# Florida School for the Deaf & the Blind

*Do More. Be More. Achieve More.*

April 29, 2020

Dear FSDB Parents/Legal Guardians,

As we progress through the fourth quarter of this academic year, I want to express my sincere appreciation for the commitment you have made to assist our teachers, specialists and other staff members in supporting your child's distance learning efforts.

## **Last Day of School for Students**

The Florida Department of Education issued guidance to schools throughout the state regarding required instructional time necessary to complete the school year. We have determined that the last day of instruction for FSDB seniors will be Friday, May 22, 2020, as is our tradition. All other students will continue distance learning through Friday, May 29, 2020, in line with our 2019-20 calendar.

## **Year-End Ceremonies**

After careful consideration, we have made the decision to postpone year-end awards and commencement events to the first week of June. These special events have traditionally gathered large groups of people from across the state into confined spaces, which will be unsafe for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, we are working on virtual alternatives to recognize and honor our seniors and student-athletes. As with all decisions we have made during these uncertain times, the health and safety of our entire FSDB community continue to be our top priority.

Our virtual events will replicate many of the components of in-person events but with more video preparation for live streaming via the FSDB website. This allows for seniors, student-athletes and their families to participate from the comfort and safety of their own homes. Digital program books are being prepared; these and post-event videos also will be available on the FSDB website. Further specifics will be shared directly with seniors, student-athletes and their families in the coming weeks for the following virtual events:

- Athletic Awards Ceremony – Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 7 p.m.
- Senior Awards Ceremony – Thursday, June 4, 2020 at 7 p.m.
- Commencement Ceremony – Friday, June 5, 2020 at 7 p.m.

We will also share information with you on additional events including graduation activities for the Early Learning Center, elementary and middle schools, along with highlights of Dance Troupe performances.

**Announcements, Resources and FAQs**

We encourage you to check [our website](#) often for updated announcements, resources and frequently asked questions (FAQs) related to COVID-19 and distance learning. We also encourage you to ensure that your email contact information is up to date, so you can receive important FSDB messages and announcements in a timely manner.

Again, thank you for working with us during this challenging time – we look forward to celebrating our graduating classes and finishing the 2019-20 year strong!

Dr. Jeanne Glidden Prickett  
President