

Berkshire Union Free School District

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March 20, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

With a heavy heart I write to you today. On behalf of the staff at Warren Street Academy and the Berkshire Union Free School District I am writing to inform you that the Berkshire Union Free School District will be closing on June 30th. We had hoped that a takeover by our BOCES, Questar III, would have been possible to help continue the Warren Street Academy. Unfortunately, that is not the reality, Warren Street Academy will also be dissolving June 30th. Questar III has assured us that programs would be offered to meet the needs of the students in our program.

For the last 6 and half years the Warren Street Academy has celebrated several successes and helped numerous students meet goals never thought achievable. This is very sad for the staff who work tirelessly, but more importantly it's heartbreaking to the families and students we serve. Every student's family that attends the Warren Street Academy has made a choice and that choosing this path will lead to greater benefits for their child. However, every crisis is an opportunity.

We are currently working with all the community school district that will be affected to develop a plan to transfer the students to their new program for September. As of right now, Questar III is gathering information from your local school districts for special education students to determine needs and the best desirable location for programming. Additionally, Questar III is determining the need for, Alternative Transition Program students (ATP) and will be expanding their program offerings to accommodate the students currently served in the ATP program at the WSA.

We understand change is extremely hard, especially for the students that we serve. We plan to offer excellent programming until the last day. As transition plans become clearer, we will update everyone in a timely fashion so that your family may make the best decisions possible. We currently have 16 seniors that we hope to see graduate in June. We are also planning several field trips and celebrations as we conclude the school year.

Do not hesitate to contact me directly at (518) 828-3681 or via email dkalbfliesh@warrenstreetacademy.org.

Sincerely,

Daniel Kalbfliesh Building Principal