



# PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

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RE: Parental Consent for Use of Teletherapy for Related Services- OT, PT, Speech, Counseling

*Pemberton Township Schools* will implement related services via teletherapy during the COVID-19 remote and hybrid schedule. This decision continues to follow the guidance provided by the New Jersey Department of Education, as well as to provide services to our students during this period of remote and hybrid learning.

*Pemberton Township Schools* takes the privacy of student information seriously and complies with state and federal laws regarding privacy of student information, including, but not limited to, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the New Jersey Pupil Records Act (NJPR). *Pemberton Township Schools* is using technology and software applications provided by a third-party that students, parents/guardians, and/or staff can access via the internet for purposes of related services. These programs will allow for related service providers to engage in live online related services via a video or audio conference. *Pemberton Township Schools* is utilizing this technology to provide your child the best access to their related services during this period of remote and hybrid learning. Please note that the outside service providers who will be delivering remote occupational and physical therapy instruction, are the same outside service provider that has delivered therapy services to students prior to the COVID-19 school closing.

In order to provide these online teletherapy services, *Pemberton Township Schools* require your consent for your child's participation in related services, both individual and/or group, through live video conferencing. This consent will allow your student to participate in *Pemberton Township Schools* online educational services platform to access related services through a live stream video, in which the other students in your child's group will also be participating.

The third-party software and applications used by the District employ privacy settings so that the data shared over the applications is protected. Thus, the District has ensured that your child's data as shared over these programs are safe and secure, to the extent that the third-party provider guarantees data security. It should be noted however, that there are limitations on the District's ability to monitor everything that is seen or heard in a student's home, as there may be other individuals in the home or place of instruction while each student is participating. Therefore, the District must rely on parents and guardians to assist the District, in its efforts to provide the best possible instruction during this period of remote and hybrid learning, by taking reasonable measures to protect the privacy rights of all students. By participating in live stream instruction, you agree to ensure privacy and appropriateness of the virtual learning by doing the following:

- designate an appropriate place in the home with no inappropriate objects in the background
- require your child to wear appropriate clothing commensurate with BOE Policy relating to dress code
- insure all communication and language is appropriate
- limit/bar family members or housemates from intruding in the live instruction

Therefore, by signing this consent you agree to make every possible effort to ensure that the privacy of related services are maintained. Specifically, you will take particular care in ensuring that you do not share any information regarding the identity of other students in the group or the contents of the discussion. For clarification of questions, please contact your child's case manager.

YES, I give permission for my child to use Online Educational Services to access group and/or individual related services, the use of which is subject to the District's Acceptable Use Policy

NO, I do not give permission for my child to use Online Educational Services to access group and/or individual related services. By declining this service, my child will not receive related services until my child's school building reopens.