



Teaching capable, confident kids  
for a healthy planet

February 27, 2020

Re: COVID-19

Dear commUNITY,

The purpose of the present letter is to provide an update in light of the CDC's February 25th announcement that schools should begin preparing in the event of an outbreak of coronavirus, or COVID-19, in the United States. The CDC also stated on February 25th that, *although "the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 is high, both globally and to the United States ... for the general American public, who are unlikely to be exposed to this virus at this time, the immediate health risk from COVID-19 is considered low."*

Since that announcement we have been in regular contact with the department of education's county office, and the NJ Department of Education. While this situation may sound unique, Unity Charter School has had an Emergency Operations Plan in place that addresses many emergency situations, which include plans for distance learning as could be used in this case.

As you know, this situation is evolving. We know that proactivity and proper planning will allow us to be successful and fully support our students, teachers, staff, and families more appropriately. This communication is merely to be proactive, while assuring our families that we are able to put forth plans that will continue to support student learning with minimal disruptions.

This week the instructional leadership team met with school administrators to make plans for distance learning should we be asked to close the school.

- Any school modification schedules would be sent via our robocall system, text and email. Information would also be found on our school [website](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).
- Appropriate disinfection of facilities and materials would take place.
- Virtual accommodations via school-issued Chromebooks would allow us to continue instruction.
- Our main point of contact for lower school instruction would be done via teacher emails. Those emails would provide links and assignments to support student learning appropriately.
- Middle School instruction would take place via Google Classroom.

Our Emergency Operations Plan is a living document, which is reviewed regularly and updated to best support our school community.

If your child or members of your immediate family have recently traveled to a part of the world (China, South Korea, northern Italy, Iran, etc.) that is currently experiencing higher rates of infection, please contact our school nurse to discuss their status.

According to the [CDC](#) there is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

As school leaders, our paramount concern is making sure our school community is safe, nurtured and supported. We thank you for the trust you place in us and we will keep you informed of any new updates as we receive them.

Sincerely,



Connie Sanchez  
Executive Director