



Teaching capable, confident kids
for a healthy planet

March 13, 2020

Re: **School Closure**

Dear Families:

We'd like to share that as of this writing, no student or team member at Unity Charter School has tested positive for COVID-19. We continue in a low-risk status for our immediate community. However, as a school with students from multiple districts across northern NJ, we think it is imperative to escalate our response as part of a national effort to slow the spread of disease. We have closely partnered with state and local health departments, the Department of Education, the Office of Emergency Management and other entities to consider the best course of action for our community in light of the changing conditions of COVID-19. For this reason, Unity Charter School, will close from March 16th to March 27th. We will then assess the situation weekly moving forward from that point.

We will begin virtual learning March 16, 2020. Our teachers will be reaching out to you with information.

- All extracurricular activities are cancelled or postponed until school resumes. We will attempt to reschedule all these enriching opportunities as soon as it is deemed safe enough to do so.
- Students will be asked to prepare for an extended closure by clearing out lockers, cubbies and classrooms of any personal or educational items they may need. Students in grades 6-8 must bring their school-issued Chromebooks and chargers home with them. The Chromebooks will be used for instruction and to log in attendance.

During our virtual learning time, our goal is to support student learning while avoiding any learning regression. While we have planned meticulously, we realize there will be things we haven't anticipated. We hope that through open dialogue and communication these hurdles can be overcome without adding stress to your daily lives. The entire Unity Charter School team is working virtually to support each other. We hope that through this collaborative process we can continue to help your child grow academically, socially and emotionally.

In addition to virtual learning:

- Our school counselor and school psychologist will continue counseling sessions virtually or over the phone.
- Students receiving special services such as speech, physical or occupational therapy will continue sessions at home with practices that are being shared by our specialists.
- IEP meetings will be held virtually.
- Lunches will be prepared for pick up by our team for families who want them. Additional information will be sent from our lunch department regarding ordering and pick up.

"Individual commitment to a group effort... that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." -*Vince Lombardi*

We thank you for your patience in the next few weeks.

Sincerely,



Connie Sanchez
Executive Director



Michael Braverman
Dean of Students