



Important Jackson Park update

1 message

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Reply-To: communications@ucityschools.org

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Health of a Lion

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
UNIVERSITY CITY
Transform the Life of Every Student Every Day!

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Dear University City Schools Community:

Today, district leaders in partnership with the St. Louis County Department of Health decided to temporarily stop in-person instruction at Jackson Park due to the number of active cases of COVID-19 and quarantines in the school building. Here are key things to know:

- All Jackson Park students will learn virtually starting tomorrow, Thursday, March 11, through Spring Break as well as the following week of March 29 through April 2.
- Please note that no students were in the building today (Wednesday, March 10) because it was an asynchronous learning day.
- Jackson Park students are scheduled to return to in-person instruction on Monday, April 5 - the same day most students in different schools are scheduled to return to in-person instruction after Spring Break.
- All Jackson Park staff will also work from home through Spring Break, but will be able to re-enter the building on Monday, March 29.
- There are no plans to cease in-person instruction at any other district schools at this time.

Parents and staff at Jackson Park were informed earlier today of the building closure. At this time, Jackson Park currently has two staff members and one student with positive cases along with numerous quarantines. As of now, 14 staff members are quarantined (about half of the building's staff). We are unable to continue with in-person instruction while maintaining a safe learning environment for students and staff.

Contact tracing at the school is complete and staff and family households have been notified if they will need to quarantine.

We are currently working in partnership with Washington University, Saint Louis University and The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to conduct free saliva tests for qualifying families. In this voluntary program, they work with us to evaluate our cases and contacts. Members of the WashU/SLU/CDC team will contact families and individuals who qualify to offer participation in the saliva test study. Participation is voluntary and there is no charge for participation.

The District's [COVID-19 dashboard](#) will be updated tomorrow morning with the most current statistics regarding active cases and quarantines in the District.

I am terribly sorry to have to give you this news. I have great faith in our contact tracing system and continue our pledge to remain as transparent as possible. We are working hard to set up a rapid vaccination system so that the entire district staff will have a chance to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Although I encourage you to contact your school nurses with any medical questions, you are also welcome to contact me with questions or concerns at shardin@ucityschools.org or on my cell phone at 314-399-0941.

In Service of Our Children,

Sharonica Hardin-Bartley, Ph.D., PHR (she/her/hers)
Superintendent

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