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## Coronavirus update and prevention measures

1 message

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**The School District of University City** <news@ucityschools.org>  
Reply-To: communications@ucityschools.org

Tue, Mar 3, 2020 at 3:01 PM

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In The School District of University City, the health, safety and well-being of our students and staff are our top priorities. With the recently elevated discussion regarding the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the news, we want to take a moment to reinforce preventative safety measures and communicate what has been done so far.

First, it is important to remember that at this time there have only been a small number of confirmed cases of coronavirus in the United States and none of them have occurred locally. As a school district, we are closely monitoring the situation and taking guidance from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the St. Louis County Health Department and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We are also in contact with area school leaders and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. There is currently no recommendation to close schools in the United States.

We encourage our students, staff and families to be mindful of key preventative measures. The CDC offers these [tips on its website](#) that can be useful in avoiding the spread of this and other illnesses.

All district staff have been notified about the preventative measures recommended by the CDC. Teachers at all grade levels have been asked to stress preventative measures with their students, including frequent handwashing with soap and water; covering any cough or sneeze with a tissue or sneezing/coughing into the inside of an elbow (the germ triangle); staying home when feeling sick; and not sharing water bottles.

Additionally, district maintenance and custodial staff have been sanitizing classroom, library and cafeteria spaces regularly to ensure they are as clean as possible.

Please remember that if children are sick, they should not be at school. Students need to be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to class after any illness. Please refer to the [health guidelines](#) outlined on our district website. Keeping children home when they are sick is critical to prevention.

We will keep you fully informed if the situation changes. We thank you for also adhering to these preventative measures in your homes.

In Service of Our Children,

Sharonica Hardin-Bartley, PhD, PHR  
Superintendent

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