



SDUC update on COVID-19, coronavirus

1 message

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Reply-To: news@ucityschools.org

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Dear University City Families:

There was a lot of news this weekend regarding a St. Louis woman recently diagnosed with COVID-19, the disease spread by the coronavirus. We also learned that the woman with the COVID-19 is the older sister of a Villa Duchesne freshman and that the freshman and her father attended the school's father-daughter dance on Saturday evening.

I have been in contact with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and members of our school community. We recently learned that a few District families have a connection with Villa Duschene but did not attend its school dance.

Currently, the spread of COVID-19 in the region has not reached the point where health officials are recommending we close schools.

Prevention: At this time, we continue to offer the same guidelines as in our previous communication. According to the CDC, everyone should:

- Continue frequent hand-washing with warm water and soap.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or the inside of an elbow, and properly dispose of the tissue.
- Stay home from school if not feeling well.

Additionally, our staff has been instructed to discuss these preventative measures with students in all grades. The school district also has made hand sanitizers available to all staff and students. Custodial workers have been regularly cleaning and sanitizing spaces throughout the district.

Spring Break: We understand families and staff may have travel plans over spring break. At this point, we are asking families and staff to self-report to the District their travel plans so we can monitor the situation as things unfold over the next few weeks. Families can send that information to Nancy Cambria, director of communications at ncambria@ucityschools.org.

I am very hopeful our school schedule can continue without interruption. However, this is certainly not the time to worry about falling behind in school or taking sick days. The health of our students, staff and families is our top priority.

Please be assured that we are monitoring the situation very closely with the proper health and governmental agencies and our school nurses and our principals. If you have additional questions or concerns, please let your building principal know. If they cannot answer your question, they will make sure that someone who can is in touch at the earliest possible opportunity.

- [Crystal Cauley](#), Julia Goldstein Early Childhood Center, 314-290-4392
- [Dr. JaNae' Alfred](#), Barbara C. Jordan Elementary School, 314-290-4369
- [Nicallee Wilson](#), Flynn Park Elementary School, 314-290-4431
- [Dr. Rebecca O'Connell](#), Jackson Park Elementary School, 314-290-4466
- [Herbert Buie](#), Pershing Elementary School, 314-290-4151
- [Elliott Shostak](#), Brittany Woods Middle School, 314-290-4291
- [Michael Peoples](#), University City High School, 314-290-4148
- [Paula Sams](#), Lieberman Learning Center, 314-290-4331

Should our situation change, we will inform you immediately. The CDC is providing up to date information for schools and families.

We must all work together and make strong and safe decisions while weighing the expert advice of the CDC and other health organizations. Please remember to keep your children home if they are not feeling well, and to also emphasize hand-washing and the proper way to sneeze and cough.

Thank you for your partnership and support as we continue to monitor the situation.

In Service of Our Children,

Sharonica Hardin-Bartley, PhD, PHR
Superintendent

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