



2008 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO 64127 – 816.994.5400 - [www.uicskc.org](http://www.uicskc.org)

March 17, 2020

Dear UICS Families,

We promised to communicate with you in real time on this unparalleled societal situation, regarding the coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic. On Monday evening, we learned that Mayor Quinton Lucas, in tandem with superintendents of 14 Kansas City metropolitan area school districts, decided to close all schools through Friday, April 3. **At the close of business on Tuesday, March 17, UICS-Metro Center and UICS-St. Mark Center will follow this guidance. Normal business will resume on Monday, April 6, 2020 unless additional guidance is received, at which time we will update you as soon as possible. This closure is to prioritize the safety of our staff, students, and families.**

Please note the following:

- Families will not be responsible for tuition during this school closure.
- Please take any of your students' personal items and medicine home for this break from school.
- It is not lost on us that many families rely on our meals as primary nourishment for their students; UICS served more than 60,000 meals during school and family events in 2019. We are exploring options for meal availability for UICS families during this school shutdown.
- Home visits/parent conferences that were scheduled for Friday, March 20 will be postponed until a future date.
- During the school closure, we will post videos and content from partner organizations (examples being Sesame Street in Communities and PNC Grow Up Great) on our UICS [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts, so that families can have the opportunity to continue with student learning, and social and emotional development. These are not intended to be a substitute for UICS' high-quality early education, but to continue the value of learning.
- We also support your continuing prevention efforts to "flatten the curve" for spreading a contagious virus.
- If any Metro Center or St. Mark Center students or family member tests positive for the coronavirus/COVID-19, please contact your school's director (Metro Center – Porsha Locke, [porsha.locke@uicskc.org](mailto:porsha.locke@uicskc.org); St. Mark Center – Raina Davis, <mailto:raina.davis@uicskc.org>) so that we assess risk and the possibility of spreading the contagious virus. We will encourage you to follow the CDC's guidelines regarding self-quarantine and seeking medical treatment. We will also consult with authorities on how to manage this situation.
- **In the event of an emergency during this closure or a need for emergency support, please contact the UICS front desk voicemail (816.994.5400). Voicemail will be checked daily by UICS staff.**

These are unprecedented times for UICS, our community, our country, and our modern world. As we do our part to lessen the impact of the coronavirus/COVID-19, we also ask you to remember our mission of "Building Bridges. Inspiring Minds. Impacting Futures." Each day, you've chosen to be a part of our community and have valued our commitment to high-quality early education in Kansas City. Thank you so much for how you've handled these uncharted waters.

As more information is received, we will assess the landscape and continue to share real-time updates with you. If you have further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact your center Director.

Please continue to check our [website](http://www.uicskc.org) (<http://www.uicskc.org>), social media (Facebook: [facebook.com/uicskc](https://www.facebook.com/uicskc); [Twitter/Instagram](#): @uicskc), and you are currently enrolled in our texting system (Metro Center families: text KCMETRO to 313131; St. Mark Center families, text STMARK to 313131) so that you receive immediate updates.

Respectfully,

Deidre Anderson, CEO  
United Inner City Services

*Building Bridges, Inspiring Minds, Impacting Futures*