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CEO, Ex-Officio

November 12, 2020

Dear UICS Parents,

As many of you know, the rise of COVID-19 cases continues to soar, with the seven-day average for new cases in KC breaking each previous day's record for the past week (now at 1,015 cases daily). Two weeks ago, the seven-day average was at 421. The web of influence for the pandemic becomes more expansive every day; I tested positive for the coronavirus earlier this week, along with other UICS staff having tested positive or had a primary exposure.

Family safety is of the utmost importance. **At the close of business today (Thurs., November 12), all three UICS school facilities (UICS-Metro Center, UICS-North Center, and UICS-St. Mark Center) will close until Monday, November 30.**

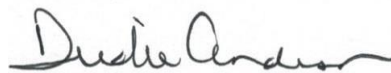
We understand that this is a hardship for our families, where child care is a core part of a parent's ability to work. With this responsibility, we are looking at a systemic review of our policies and procedures so that we are managing our role in this pandemic responsibly. To be direct: we want to minimize risks to your health, and our families' health, by avoiding becoming centers of contagion. With the growing spread, insufficient in-classroom staffing is a bonafide concern.

Please note the following:

- Take any of your student's personal items home.
- As with the previous facility closures in mid-March through mid-May, it is not lost on us that many families rely on our meals as primary nourishment for their students. **On Thursday, November 19 (9AM – 5:30PM) at each school, we will continue our drive-up/delivery distribution of meal boxes, other food items, art supplies, and essentials (diapers/formula).**
- UPDATE: UICS families' tuition will be waived for the weeks of November 16 and November 23; tuition will not be charged those weeks. Virtual classroom options will remain available for all enrolled families.
- We will once again post videos and content from partner organizations (examples being Sesame Street in Communities and PNC Grow up Great) on our UICS [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/uicskc) (<http://www.facebook.com/uicskc>) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/uicskc) (@uicskc) accounts, so that families can have the opportunity to continue with student learning and social/emotional development.
- If you test positive for COVID-19, please contact your school's Family Advocate or Center Director, to assess risk and the possibility of spread. 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.
- When our schools re-open, generous corporate partners have donated protective face shields for each UICS team member, to be worn in addition to the required face masks for prevention.
- **On Thursday, November 19, we will hold UICS Virtual Town Hall meetings at 12PM and 6PM to discuss these and other updates with you. A Zoom link will be provided closer to the event.**

As more information is received, we will continue to assess the landscape and share real-time updates with you. We continue to wish you the best of health and safety. Thank you for being a part of our UICS family.

Sincerely,



Deidre Anderson, CEO
United Inner City Services