

MARGARET ROSE MORALES, EdS.
Chief School Administrator



Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School
Office of Chief School Administrator
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March 10, 2020

Dear Parents:

I am sending you information regarding the Novel Coronavirus (newly abbreviated COVID-19.) The Novel Coronavirus is a virus which can infect the respiratory tract and spread similarly to cold viruses. Information to date suggests that COVID-19 causes mild-to-moderate illness and symptoms like the flu, including fever, cough, and difficulty breathing. At this time, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) confirms that there have been some cases confirmed in New Jersey. The health and safety of our students and staffs are a priority for the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School. As you may be aware, the CDC states that more cases of COVID-19 “are likely to be identified in the coming days, including more cases in the United States.” We would like to communicate some important items within our school community.

Our school district has policies in place to guide us through these types of situations. District Policy 8451 requires that we comply with all regulations of the State Department of Education and the State Department of Health as well as the Middlesex County Department of Health. District Policy 2412 provides for home instruction for students who cannot participate in the regular education program due to temporary health conditions. According to the CDC, “While the immediate risk to this new virus to the American public is believed to be low at this time, everyone can do their part to help us respond to this emerging public health threat. It is recommended that individuals follow these public health guidelines, not only for COVID-19, but also to help prevent the spread of influenza:

- Prevent the spread of germs by covering coughs and sneezes
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing. If you use a tissue, throw it in the trash.
- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Stay home if you are sick and avoid sick people.
- Review and follow the CDC travel advisory <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/alert/novel-coronavirus-china> when planning travel. If you or a family member become ill after returning home to the United States, call a healthcare provider. For more information (and FAQ’s) visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>

Please note that each classroom currently has hand sanitizer dispensers and disinfectant wipes available to all students and staff for clean desks and hands each period. Also, we have updated information on our website. As situations evolve, we are prepared to comply with State and local health agencies, and we will make adjustments as necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Margaret Morales', is written over a horizontal line.

Margaret R. Morales, EdS.
Chief School Administrator