

March 12, 2020

Dear U Prep Community,

Late Tuesday, Governor Whitmer made the declaration to assist local governments to slow the spread of the coronavirus due to the recent reporting of two confirmed cases of the virus in Oakland and Wayne counties. Wednesday afternoon, I assembled our Crisis Response Team comprised of human resources, facilities, marketing, and school leadership personnel to research and implement additional practices to help keep our community safe.

**Closure on Friday, March 12 – Staff Must Report**

**Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, we are cancelling school to allow teachers planning time to prepare for an extended closure should it be necessary. School is closed Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Our normal schedule will resume Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.**

With an abundance of caution, the following decisions and/or actions have been made so far:

- A survey was emailed to families to assess our readiness for online learning. We intend to move to an online platform for an extended closure.
  - If for some reason you do not receive the survey, contact the school to update your PowerSchool information and they will email you the survey
- All field trips have been cancelled until further notice.
- Our upcoming trip to Costa Rica has been cancelled. More information will be shared in the coming days with Parents whose scholars were preparing to travel.
  - Be advised: In February a group of students did attend an international travel experience. They *did not* travel to Italy. We are well beyond the incubation period of 14 days with no cases of the virus.
- If you or your household members travel to high risk states, please follow any [CDC travel guidelines](#).
- All work-related travel for school personnel has been suspended until further notice.
- We are limiting school assemblies until further notice.
- All after-school activities are cancelled until further notice.
- We are examining ways to utilize best practices as it relates to social distancing in the learning environment.

Governor Whitmer has asked all Michiganders take presumptive measures to prevent the spread including:

- Washing your hands with soap and water.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Covering your mouth and nose with a tissue or upper sleeve when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoiding contact with people who are sick.

- Staying home if you are sick and contact your healthcare provider.
- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, like doorknobs, keyboards, cell phones, and light switches.

Other mitigation strategies can be found at [www.Michigan.gov/coronavirus](http://www.Michigan.gov/coronavirus) .

I want to stress; these practices are one way that we can work together to keep the U Prep community healthy. I would like to also suggest that parents and staff consider purchasing pocket-sized hand sanitizer for backpacks, purses, and car glove boxes in addition to disinfectant wipes, so they are readily available.

Additionally, the facilities teams will continue their focus to ensure restrooms and classrooms are well stocked with soap and tissues and have invested in industrial-grade cleaning products to disinfect heavily trafficked common areas in the schools.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact your scholar's school directly.

Sincerely,

Danielle Jackson  
Interim CEO Detroit 90/90

Additional Resources for Parents:

- [Talking to Children about COVID-19](#) - Parent Resource from NASP
- [Coronavirus Resources](#) – ASCA
- [Talking to Teens and Tweens About Coronavirus](#) – NYTimes
- [Talking to Kids About The Coronavirus](#) – ChildMind
- [Just For Kids: A Comic Exploring The New Coronavirus](#) - NPR
- [PBS offers videos and resources](#)