



# UChicago Charter School

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March 13, 2020

Dear Charter School Families:

We are writing to let you know our plans for the Charter Schools in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. The leadership of UChicago Charter School, working closely with both the Chicago Public Schools and the University of Chicago, is carefully monitoring this rapidly evolving situation. Our goals have been to protect the health and safety of our students and staff, to continue to offer a distinctive, high quality education to our students and families, and to act as responsible global and local citizens during this public health challenge.

Today, we are announcing new steps to best serve these goals. This is an unprecedented situation and we recognize that these steps will present challenges. We extend our appreciation in advance to the families and entire UChicago Charter School community for their understanding, patience, and support in responding to these extremely challenging circumstances.

- **The UChicago Charter Schools will close beginning on Tuesday, March 17. We expect to reopen on Monday, April 13.** We will keep you advised if there are changes to this plan.
- **Students should come to school on Monday, March 16.** This will be a normal school day. Students will also receive learning materials and instructions for remote and at-home learning. Please make sure your students take home with them everything they may need for the duration of the time out of school.
- **Preparations are in process to conduct some remote learning.** We will announce plans about remote learning activities as soon as the information is available.

We also wanted you to be aware that, as of this date, no employee or student of the UChicago Charter has been diagnosed with the coronavirus. We monitor this situation daily, and will inform you of any changes.

While at work or home, we encourage you to follow the Center for Disease Control's advice, which includes washing your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds, wiping all work and other surfaces clean frequently, using tissues for sneezing and coughing, and keeping a "social distance" from others, generally advised as 2 meters' distance. Should you or your child feel ill, we advise you to stay at home and to seek doctor's care.

We know that the closing will present challenges for many families, but believe this action is in the best interest of the health and safety of the UChicago Charter School community. While we have been guided by public health recommendations, the situation is fluid, and further changes may be necessary. Please know that none of our decisions has been reached lightly or without extensive deliberation.

We recognize the disruption and uncertainty that this pandemic is causing. Let's continue working together, remain strong, and honor the values and mission of the UChicago Charter School.

Sincerely,

Tanika Island Childress, CEO