



March 22, 2020

CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES at STEAM and PAC ACADEMIES

Dear BRICK Education Network Families:

We were informed today that two employees at **MPTCS STEAM Academy** and an employee at **MPTCS PAC Academy** tested positive for COVID-19. Our hearts go out to our co-workers and their families. Information regarding staff members' identity will not be released and we ask that you please respect their privacy.

The Newark Department of Health and Community Wellness has been informed. Local Health Departments will contact all at-risk parties.

We implore you to continue to take all precautions to remain safe. Please follow the guidelines of Mayor Baraka and Governor Murphy and remain inside, continuously wash your hands and clean and sanitize frequently touched surfaces. In order to ensure our buildings are properly cleaned and sanitized, our scheduled food distribution for Monday and Wednesday will be postponed. Please note, all Newark students are eligible to pick up meals at the nearest Newark Public Schools site (visit <https://bit.ly/398BqEz> to locate the site near your home).

If you are experiencing any additional hardships during this sensitive time or are in need of family support resources, please reach out to South Ward Promise Neighborhood Family Hub contact Thea Moss at 862-214-4200 or tmoss@brickeducation.org. Additionally, our social workers and counselors are available to virtually meet with students and parents should you need their support. Please contact your principal or teacher to facilitate a meeting.

As recommended by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, please contact your health care provider if you are experiencing any of the following symptoms: fever, cough, and shortness of breath. For more information on what to do if you and/or a family member develop symptoms, please visit the CDC "What to do if you feel sick" link: <https://bit.ly/2JaFZUg>.

We will continue to update our network of families and staff as more information becomes available. A BEN team member will be reaching out to you on Monday, March 23rd to ensure we have your most recent contact information and inquiry about your need for resources.

Based on the guidance of our state and local leaders, we will not open schools on March 31st, instead all schools will be closed until further notice. Let's all continue to work together to stay informed and connected, as we support each other through this crisis.

Regards,

Dominique Lee

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CEO

Chaleeta Hines

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Interim Chief School Administrator