



March 12, 2020

Dear MPS Staff,

Milwaukee Public Schools continues to work in partnership with our local, state, and federal health agencies to receive and share daily updates and guidance surrounding the coronavirus (COVID-19). We will continue to work with public health officials at the city, county, and state level as we make decisions that impact all of us.

At this time, there are no known or reported cases of COVID-19 in Milwaukee Public Schools. I am also in close contact with many colleagues at nearby school districts who are planning and preparing for the potential impact. We understand that closing schools is disruptive to our families; at this time, Milwaukee Public Schools is not planning to close schools.

I would like to provide you with a few updates on what our district is doing to prevent and prepare for the potential impact of COVID-19 in our schools.

- MPS is canceling all district sponsored out-of-state travel through the end of spring break (April 13, 2020). We encourage families to avoid nonessential out-of-state travel over the same period.
- Working out details that include virtual classes and comprehensive packets of schoolwork for student to take home.
- Technology needs assessment are being reviewed to determine hardware capacity. We have a diverse student population, and some of our students do not have regular access to technology or the internet.
- Review of strategy and logistics of providing meals to students if schools were to close. We have identified several locations throughout the city that would serve as meal pick-up points.

Today, Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers declared a public health emergency in Wisconsin. In response, MPS has reviewed regular events that may bring large groups of students, adults, and community members together, as well as upcoming field trips. It has been determined that the following cancellations are necessary:

- March 13–15: March of Champions Basketball Tournament involving elementary and middle school students at various locations
- March 14: Competitive Swim Meet at Riverside University High School
- March 16–17: Seventh Annual Summit on Black Male Youth
- March 17: United Nations Schools of International Learning (UNSIL) World Fair
- March 17: Elementary Adaptive Athletics Bocce Event at Vincent High School
- March 21: Cheer Showcase at North Division High School
- March 26: MPS STEM Fair

Additionally, we continue to implement all of the preventive measures as we have indicated in prior communications. Within our buildings, custodial staff members are cleaning common and high-

touch and traffic areas several times a day, and we are providing resources, supplies, and time for students to wash their hands regularly.

We recognize how challenging this situation is for our students, families, and staff, and we take this situation seriously. We are taking real-time preventive measures in response to new information that key agencies provide.

Our goal is to keep our doors open as long as possible while prioritizing the health and safety of our students and staff. Thank you for working with us through this evolving situation that impacts all facets of life in our entire community. We will continue to provide you with regular updates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith P. Posley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "K" and a long, sweeping tail on the "y".

Dr. Keith P. Posley
Superintendent of Schools