



UNION COUNTY VOCATIONAL - TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

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Mrs. Gwendolyn S. Ryan
Superintendent of Schools

November 20, 2020

Dear UCVTS Community,

This letter is to inform you that an individual at the Union County Career and Technical Institute (UCCTI) is identified as positive for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). The District is coordinating closely with public health officials and following CDC, state, and local health department guidance in order to assure the health and safety of our community. It is important to note, at this point there are no known instances of COVID-19 transmission at UCVTS related to this individual, or otherwise. If a student or staff member was a potential contact of this individual, you will be notified by our School Nurse of further precautionary steps.

The number of community members who need to quarantine as a result of the positive case creates a staffing issue. Consequently, **UCCTI students and staff will transition to a fully remote learning environment beginning Monday, November 23, 2020.** Please be reminded schools are closed on Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th. UCCTI students will join classes remotely and will continue to follow their bell schedule as outlined on the [UCVTS Remote Schedule \(Slide 6\)](#). **UCCTI students and staff will return to in-person hybrid instruction on December 7th, 2020.** Over the Thanksgiving break and into the following week, we will continue to closely monitor all positive COVID-19 cases associated with our District students and staff and will adjust or extend the timeline if needed and according to the circumstances.

All adult post-secondary/continuing education, and alternative programs will remain open, in our current hybrid in-person model (Adult Postsecondary/Continuing Education, Recovery HS, SYA).

Cleaning and disinfecting of all exposed areas will be completed in alignment with the UCVTS Restart and Recovery Plan. The school is also taking precautions to prevent the introduction and spread of viruses and other germs and is cleaning frequently touched surfaces daily. The status of this situation is fluid, and we are monitoring it closely.

We understand the level of concern regarding COVID-19. We encourage parents and students to continue following the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention promoted safeguards, such as:

- Staying home when you are sick;
- Washing hands often with soap for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils;
- Practicing social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart);
- Wearing a face covering while in school; and
- Continuing to monitor your health for symptoms.

While considering travel as we approach the holiday season, please be advised that in an effort to provide the safest possible learning environment for our students and staff, the Union County Vocational-Technical Schools requires that families and staff follow the New Jersey travel advisory. New Jersey advises individuals who return to New Jersey following travel from a state or territory with significant community spread of COVID-19 to quarantine for a 14-day period from the time of last contact within the identified state or territory. The current list of states and territories subject to the quarantine is maintained on the State's [COVID-19 Information Hub](#).

As always, we appreciate our community's support and cooperation. You can assist us by remaining vigilant but sensible in your approach to dealing with this health concern. Should you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to contact your building principal. Below are some resources that might be helpful.

RESOURCES

- a. NJDOH COVID-19 Information for Communities and the General Public: https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_community.shtml
- b. Get the Facts about Coronavirus: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- c. Symptoms of COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptomstesting/symptoms.html>
- d. Testing: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/testing/index.html>;
<https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/testing>
- e. How to Protect Yourself: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-gettingsick/prevention.html>
- f. What to Do if You Are Sick: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/stepswhen-sick.html>

Sincerely,



Gwendolyn S. Ryan
Superintendent of Schools