



840 North Main Street
West Hartford, CT 06117
860-236-2049
Fax 860-231-2843
info@ie-academy.org

December 7, 2020

Dear Parents, Staff and Community Members:

IEA has experienced several new COVID-19 cases today. Due to the number of adults that must quarantine, we have determined that there is insufficient staff necessary to safely run our program. As such, all students will be remote until January 4th. Remote days will be 8-1 for all students during this time.

We understand that remote learning can be incredibly challenging for some of our students and this is not a decision that we have made lightly. Our teachers and related services staff are prepared to help students make this transition. If you have any questions about your child's program, you should contact your child's teacher directly.

While we have hoped to avoid this, over the weekend, two additional members of the Intensive Education Academy community tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). These two cases are not connected to each other, or any other cases at IEA. The affected people have been instructed to remain home in self-isolation for 10 days and have been provided with additional instructions to follow prior to returning to school.

Anyone who is considered a "close contact" of these individuals have been informed by our school nurse and provided with instructions on the appropriate steps to take.

The increasing number of cases our school community is experiencing can feel concerning, but it is reflective of the larger increase overall in our state. We feel it is important to reiterate that the infected individuals are all being exposed outside of school. Our school is not seeing outbreaks and the virus spread is mitigated by our strong preventative measures: masks, distancing, hand washing and ventilation.

We are closely monitoring this situation and working with the West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District and will provide you with updates as we know more. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at jforman@ie-academy.org or 860.236.2049.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Forman
Executive Director

Intensive Education Academy, Inc.

is a non-sectarian, not-for-profit, State of CT approved special education facility, and a ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

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COVID & IEA Resources

IEA Absence Reporting Form: <https://www.ie-academy.org/student-life/current-families.html>

IEA COVID-19 Dashboard: https://www.ie-academy.org/news_events/

State of Connecticut Travel Guidelines: <https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/travel>

For additional information on COVID-19 symptoms, please see:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

For more information on what to do if you or a family member has possible symptoms, a diagnosis, or exposure to COVID-19, please see *Addendum 5: Interim Guidance for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios in Connecticut School Districts*, available here:

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/COVID19/COVID-19-Resources-for-Families-and-Educators/Addendums-and-FAQs>

Key COVID-19 Symptoms:

- Fever (100.4° Fahrenheit or higher)
- Chills or shaking chills
- Uncontrolled new cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell

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