



MICHAEL BENNET
U.S. SENATOR *for* COLORADO

FOR PLANNING PURPOSES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

CONTACTS:

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Bennet to Visit Clayton Early Learning, Support Launch of Colorado's First COVID-19 Testing Site for Early Childhood Community, Applaud Colorado Education Community's Partnership with COVIDCheck Colorado

Senator to Stress Need for National Strategy, Health Force Proposal to Help Schools Stay Open

Denver — Colorado U.S. Senator Michael Bennet will visit Clayton Early Learning on Friday September 18th at 8 a.m. MT to applaud Becky Crowe, President & CEO of Clayton Early Learning, Mike Johnston, CEO of Gary Community Investments, Susana Cordova, Superintendent of Denver Public Schools, and Michelle Marks, Chancellor of University of Colorado Denver for leading Colorado and the nation by using COVIDCheck Colorado's Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) testing program to help schools safely return to in-person teaching and learning. Bennet will also call for a national testing and contact tracing strategy to support schools at every level with the public health resources and infrastructure they need to safely open and remain open for the benefit of the students, their households, and our economy.

In April, Bennet introduced his [Health Force](#) proposal with U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.), which would recruit, train, and employ hundreds of thousands of Americans to expand our public health workforce for the COVID-19 response and strengthen our capacity to meet America's longer-term public health needs.

[Clayton Early Learning](#) will also announce they are the state's first early childhood education program to provide COVID-19 testing to its community through COVIDCheck Colorado. COVIDCheck Colorado is providing asymptomatic and symptomatic COVID-19 testing to all Clayton Early Learning staff, as well as children enrolled in their programs and their households. As part of a continuous effort to maintain the health and safety of the Clayton early childhood

community that supports children from birth to age five, testing will be conveniently located on the Clayton campus in Park Hill—every other Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

In offering COVID-19 testing to its community, Clayton joins [COVIDCheck Colorado's](#) K12 and university partners in a collective effort to keep students of all ages as safe as possible throughout their academic journey.

Media is invited to arrive at 7:30 a.m. MT to check in and set up. Media is invited to capture B-roll and photos of Bennet engaging with parents of children at Clayton. To meet social distancing requirements, photos and B-roll of a testing tent will be permitted upon request. Following the conversation, Bennet will join Crowe, Johnston, Cordova, and Marks for a media availability.

WHO: U.S. Senator Michael Bennet
Becky Crowe, President & CEO, Clayton Early Learning
Mike Johnston, CEO, Gary Community Investments
Susana Cordova, Superintendent, Denver Public Schools
Michelle Marks, Chancellor, University of Colorado Denver

WHAT: Overview of testing site at Clayton, informal conversation with parents of children enrolled in Clayton early learning programs, and a media availability

WHEN: Tomorrow, Friday, September 18, 2020
Media Arrives: 7:30 a.m. MT
Event Begins: 8:00 a.m. MT
Availability: 8:30 a.m. MT

WHERE: Educare Denver Building
Clayton Early Learning
3801 Martin Luther King Blvd
Denver, CO

RSVP: Please RSVP to press@bennet.senate.gov by 7:00 a.m. MT tomorrow, Friday, **September 18. We ask that you please wear a mask and practice social distancing during the event.**

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