



“Striving for Excellence”

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October 2009

Dear Parents, Students and Community Members,

As you already know from our recent messages through letters and website communication, Rossford Schools is carefully monitoring the absences during this flu season, specifically focused on the H1N1 (“swine flu”) epidemic. At this time, our schools are experiencing increased absenteeism, yet there has not been a confirmed case of the H1N1 virus in the district.

We are working closely with the Wood County Health Department to determine how our schools can best protect the health and safety of our students and staff. At this time, schools will remain open. We will keep you updated with any important information.

To keep the flu from spreading to more people, we ask you to keep sick children home. Any children who are sick in school will be sent home. Public health officials want you to protect yourself and your family against pandemic flu.

Here are some ways to stop the spread of germs and sickness:

- Keep sick children at home. Do not send them to school.
- Teach your children to wash hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds. Be sure to set a good example by doing this yourself.
- Teach your children to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or by coughing into their elbow or upper sleeve. Be sure to set a good example by doing this yourself.
- Teach your children to stay at least three feet away from people who are sick.
- People who are sick should stay home from work or school and stay away from other people until they are better.
- Stay away from shopping malls, movie theaters or other places where there are large groups of people.

We are also enclosing information for you and your family, *Seasonal and H1N1 Flu: A Guide for Parents*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dr. Susan Lang".

Dr. Susan Lang
Superintendent

Enclosure

Information collected from Pandemic Influenza: Toolkit for Ohio Schools by the Ohio Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention