



## **FLOYD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**140 Harris Hart Road NE**

**Floyd, VA 24091**

**Telephone: (540) 745-9400 FAX: (540) 745-9496**

**TO:** All Parents and Staff

**FROM:** Terry Arbogast, Ed.D.  
Division Superintendent

**DATE:** May 1, 2009

**SUBJECT:** H1N1 Influenza A “swine flu” Information

As you are aware, the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has now confirmed two cases of H1N1 Influenza A (formerly swine flu) in Virginia. There have been no confirmed cases in children in the Commonwealth at this time. The Virginia Department of Education is working closely with the VDH to monitor the situation and provide school division officials with accurate and timely information.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has described H1N1 as a type of influenza virus that causes respiratory disease that can spread between people. This is a new flu subtype. Symptoms include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Body aches
- Headache
- Chills and fatigue
- Occasionally, vomiting and diarrhea

Parents are urged to keep sick children at home, except to seek medical attention. Please do not send your child to school or daycare. If someone in your home is sick, keep him or her away from those who are not sick. The following are measures you can take to decrease your chance of getting H1N1:

- Teach your children to wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds. Be sure to set a good example by doing this yourself.

### **AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

The Floyd County School Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, political affiliation, gender, age, marital status, or disability in its educational programs, admission to any program, or employment.

- Teach your children to cough and sneeze into a tissue or into the inside of their elbow. Tissues should be discarded after a single use and hands washed.
- Teach your children to stay at least six feet away from people who are sick.
- Children who are sick should stay home from school or daycare and stay away from other people until they are better.
- In communities where H1N1 has occurred, stay away from shopping malls, movie theaters, or other places where there are large groups of people.

If your child is absent from school for any reason, please report the absence to your child's school. It is very important, during an outbreak such as this, to have accurate information about absences.

School division officials will work closely with local and state health district officials to determine if/when schools should close and re-open. You will be notified of school schedule changes by the Honeywell system.

If schools are closed, students and parents will be instructed about the work they are expected to do while school is out. Please remember the importance of avoiding large crowds if schools are closed. For instance, students should not congregate at the mall.

Please be assured that we are doing everything possible to keep your child/children safe at school. We will be closely monitoring the situation and following the guidance of the Virginia Department of Health and the CDC.

We have added a link to our website <http://www.floyd.k12.va.us> for the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. If you have questions or concerns, please contact your school nurse.

**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

The Floyd County School Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, political affiliation, gender, age, marital status, or disability in its educational programs, admission to any program, or employment.