

SNYDER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Guidelines for Seasonal and H1N1 Flu

Snyder Schools personnel have developed, with assistance from government agencies, initial guidelines to help promote a safer environment for their students and staff and to reduce exposure to flu during the 2009-10 school year. This guidance is designed to decrease the spread of regular seasonal flu and the new H1N1 flu while limiting the disruption of day-to-day activities and the vital learning that goes on in our schools. While school staff members will be implementing procedures to prevent and contain the spread of flu germs, parents and guardians should follow the guidelines listed below.

1. Students stay home when sick. Those with flu-like symptoms and a fever equal to or greater than 100 degrees should stay home at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever. This means they should be without a fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines.
2. Students with ill household members should stay home.
3. Routinely clean areas that sick children touch often. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) indicates it is NOT necessary to clean with bleach and other non-detergent based cleaners.
4. Routinely stress to children to wash hands frequently with soap and water and to cover noses and mouths with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. If a tissue is not immediately available, encourage children to cough or sneeze into their arm or sleeve.
5. Remind children not to share anything that could contribute to transmission, such as make-up, drinks, school supplies, etc.
6. The CDC recommends that all children aged 6 months up to their 24th birthday get **a seasonal flu vaccine**.
7. The CDC recommends that all children from 6 months through 18 years of age receive the **new H1N1 flu vaccine** when it becomes available.