

WOODLAND COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT NO. 5

5800 E. 3000 NORTH ROAD, STREATOR, ILLINOIS 61364-8881

815-672-2909 (K-8)

815-672-5974 (District)

815-672-2900 (9-12)

DOUGLAS FOSTER
Superintendent

DEBRA DERBY
K-12 Principal

LISA SMITH, Board President
TODD RUSSOW, Board Vice President
RALPH COLE, Board Secretary

THOMAS KAMINKE
ERIC PERHACH
JENNIFER THOMAS
KRISTA TURNER

September 3, 2009

Dear Parents,

As you know the seasonal and the H1N1 flu is spread easily by person to person and school – age children are among the most affected groups. Therefore, we are taking steps to reduce the spread of flu at Woodland Schools. Despite the recent increase in H1N1 flu cases we want to keep the school open to students and function in a normal manner during this upcoming flu season. ***We need your help to do this.***

We are working closely with the Livingston County Health Department to monitor flu conditions and make decisions about the best steps to take. Public Health officials recommend the following steps to prevent the spread of flu within the school.

- Teach your children to wash their hands often and for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Teach your children to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the inside of their elbow.
- Teach your children not to share personal items like drinks, food or unwashed utensils.
- Know the signs and symptoms of the flu. Symptoms of the flu include fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit, 37.8 degrees Celsius or greater) cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache and feeling very tired.
- Keep sick children at home for at least 24 hours after they no longer have fever or do not have signs of fever, without using fever-reducing drugs. Keeping children with a fever at home will reduce the number of people who may get infected.
- Do not send children to school if they are sick. Any children who are determined to be sick while at school will be sent home. Please keep your child contact information up-dated.
- When calling your child in sick to the school please let the school secretary know of any flu symptoms your child is suffering from.
- We urge you to speak with your doctor or local health department about where you may obtain vaccinations for your children and any other questions about seasonal flu or H1N1 influenza.

Other sources of information include;

www.flu.gov. or call 1-800-CDC-INFO

Livingston County Health Department online at <http://www.lchd.us> or call them at: (815) 844-7174.

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/mitigation.htm>

Illinois Department of Public Health's Web site <http://www.idph.state.il.us/>

Included with this correspondence are two fact sheets from the Center for Disease Control, "Action Steps for Parents if School is Dismissed or Children are Sick and Must Stay Home" and "Fighting Germs at Home, Work, and School". If the need arises at your home we hope you find these handouts helpful.

Hopefully the Woodland communities and school will be not be negatively impacted by this potentially deadly disease. We will keep you updated with information as it becomes available to us. If you have any questions please feel free to call the school at 672-2909.

Sincerely



Doug Foster
Superintendent



Deb Derby
Principal