

Dear Parents

Across the country public health officials are expressing significant concern about the potential increase in H1N1 (sometimes referred to as the Swine Flu) cases this fall.

Personnel from the Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools (KCKPS) are in close contact with the Unified Government of Wyandotte County Public Health Department, and will work directly with the Health Department, following the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in order to make sure that all students and staff remain healthy.

H1N1 is a type of respiratory flu virus that is contagious and can spread from person to person. USD 500 wants to remind parents and staff members of the importance of prevention and how to stay safe. Attached is information prepared by the American Red Cross that gives advice on:

How to avoid getting sick

What to do if you become sick

What to do if someone in your family is sick

Please take a few moments to review this information with your family. A few points are critically important:

What You Can Do To Prevent Transmission of H1N1

Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing.

Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or hand sanitizer.

If you are sick, stay home.

Symptoms of Swine flu

Fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills, fatigue.

The school district asks that families of students use good decision making when determining when a student should stay home from school due to an illness. **The child should stay home if he/she exhibits fever greater than 100 degrees with any of the following symptoms:**

Vomiting

Diarrhea

cough

sore throat

body aches

chills

fatigue

Your child must be fever free for at least 24 hours (without fever-reducing medications before they can return back to school.

For further information, contact the Unified Government of Wyandotte County Public Health Department at 913-321-4803. Or see the **Centers For Disease Control (CDC) website:** www.cdc.gov/flu. The CDC also has a Hotline Number: 1-877-427-7317.

Thank you for your attention and for helping to keep our children and staff healthy