

# Perry County Public Schools

"We Put Kids First"

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## Board Members

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Jerry W. Stacy

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Dear Parent,

As you may know H1N1 flu will no longer be identified specifically as such, but will now be called "the flu". It is expected to hit early and affect school-age children. We are taking steps to prevent the spread of flu in the **Perry County School System**. We want to keep the schools open and functioning as normal as possible. Yesterday at the Governor's Pandemic Influenza Summit we were advised that the flu will come in waves of illness that will continue for weeks and possibly for months.

**Perry County Schools Flu Plan** includes daily contact with the Center for Disease Control, the Kentucky Department of Education and the Kentucky River District Health Department to monitor flu conditions and updates so that we make the best decisions to keep our children safe.

Our plan includes YOU. What you can do to help:

- **Teach your children to wash their hands** often with soap and water and /or hand sanitizer. You can set a good example by doing this yourself
- **Teach your children not to share personal items** like drinks and food and to cover their coughs and sneezes with tissues. If they don't have a tissue, they should sneeze or cough into their upper sleeve (elbow), not their hands.
- **Know the signs and symptoms of the flu**
  - Fever (greater than 100 degrees by mouth) your child should remain home for at least 24 hours after he or she is free of fever without the use of fever reducing medicine
  - Cough
  - Sore throat
  - Runny nose
  - Body aches
  - Headaches
  - Feeling very tired.
  - Vomiting and diarrhea
- If your child has any of these symptoms, you should **talk to your health care provider** by telephone; your health care provider will determine whether treatment is needed.
- If a household member is sick, you should monitor other household member for fever and other symptoms of the flu. **Keep them separated** from each other.
- **Don't send children to school if they are sick.** Keeping your sick child home is the responsible thing to do; it protects fellow students and school staff, especially those who are at higher risk of severe illness from the flu. Class work will be made up for excused absences.

*The Perry County Board of Education does not discriminate  
on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.*

- ***Notify your child's school*** if your child has the signs and symptoms of the flu. This information will help in working with the health department.
- ***Vaccinate your child.*** Seasonal flu vaccines are highly recommended now and the H1N1 vaccine will be available in mid October. Vaccination clinics will be available at each school and will be given with parent permission ONLY. We will update you on this matter as it becomes available

We want you to know we are taking this situation very serious and want to advise you to do the same. All information that has been distributed so far says that the serious side effects (including death) have occurred in children and adults that have had a compromised immune system.

Schools will be dismissed when the safety and well being of our students and staff is affected as determined by daily Infinite Campus attendance monitoring, consultation with the Kentucky River District Health Department, other medical providers, The Kentucky Department of Education and the Center for Disease Control.

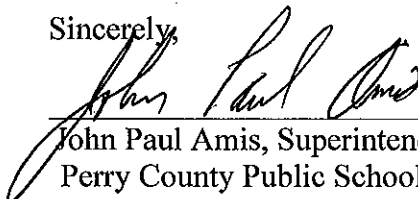
We ask for your cooperation. Please do not panic if your child has "the flu", contact your health care provider for advice, then let the school know that he or sick is sick.

We will use the messenger service, our school website and weekly school newsletters to alert you of any updates as soon as they occur.

If you have any questions, please contact School Health Services at central office @ 439-5813 or contact the Health Department Nurse at your school.

***REMEMBER, WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN.***

Sincerely,



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John Paul Amis, Superintendent  
Perry County Public Schools

Nancy F. Crawford, RN, BSN  
Linda Napier, RN  
Perry County Schools Health Coordinators