



Sevier County School System

Dr. Jack A. Parton, Director of Schools

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Press Release from Dr. Debra Ann Cline, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

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The Sevier County School System was notified today of one confirmed case of 2009 H1N1 flu in the Seymour area. In an effort to reduce the spread of flu within the Sevier County School System and in our community, Director of Schools Jack Parton has activated the following protocol.

- The Sevier County Health Department and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommend children with a fever of 100 degrees or higher should not attend school.
- If a child has a fever while at school, the school nurse will immediately contact the parent to pick up the child. A letter will also be sent home to the parent or guardian verifying the child's temperature and listing a return to school date. To promote a safe class room setting for every child, a sick child must be kept at home until the designated return date. Students should stay home even if they are using antiviral drugs.
- Students need to be fever free for 24 hours without the use of aspirin, Tylenol, or any other medication designed to reduce fever before returning to school. The 24 hour time period begins from the time a child's temperature is normal without the use of medication. It is expected that students will be out of school three to five full calendar days.
- For the well being of all concerned, students who report back to school before the three to five day period has passed or who report before the high temperature has abated will be sent home.
- During the days of absence from school, sick students should not risk infecting others and should avoid gathering in other public settings or attending any child care facility.
- Students and staff who are well may attend school, even if others at home are sick, but they should stay home as soon as they develop signs of illness.
- For more information on precautions to prevent the spread of illness, please refer to the Sevier County School System's website at www.sevier.org.

School custodians will continue to make sure that hard surfaces in classrooms and in high use areas of school buildings are wiped down regularly. Good health habits like routine hand washing, covering the nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing, and staying home when sick will be emphasized to all students and staff members. Parents with questions or concerns about this matter should contact their child's principal or Don Best at 865-453-4671.