



April 30, 2009

Dear Parents:

To-date, Jacksonville ISD has had no confirmed cases of swine flu since the recent outbreak. Given the media coverage of the outbreak, some parents are understandably concerned. Be assured that we are in constant touch with the Cherokee County Health Department for the latest health related updates. Our maintenance and custodial personnel are taking extra precautions to disinfect community areas such as bathrooms, keyboards, and doorknobs at all the campuses.

The flu can become airborne and spread to others just by coming into close contact. Please help us by asking your children to take extra precautions such as not eating or drinking after anyone else, **washing their hands often**, and remembering to cover coughs and sneezes with tissue.

Symptoms of the flu include fever, lethargy, lack of appetite, coughing, sometimes a runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. If your child shows symptoms of any type of influenza, we encourage you to: (1) have them tested at their physician's office or the local health clinic and (2) keep them at home until they are symptom free.

For their own safety and the safety of others, students should not return to school until they have been fever and symptom free for 24 hours without medication.

Swine flu is a person to person transmission that may be managed with antiviral medications such as Tamiflu. For more details, please consult the Centers for Disease Control website at [www.cdc.gov/swineflu](http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu) where you will find the latest information available on the outbreak in both English and Spanish. Jacksonville ISD will also keep updated information on the homepage of the district Web site at [www.jisd.org](http://www.jisd.org).

A public information line has been established by the Texas Department of State Health Services for persons who may have additional questions. The number is (888) 777-5320. JISD will continue to monitor the situation closely. We appreciate your support and understanding at this time.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Joe Wardell  
Superintendent of Schools

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