



Haywood County Schools

1230 North Main Street
Waynesville, NC 28786
828 456 2400

Anne G. Garrett, Ed., D.
Superintendent



August 18, 2009

Dear Parent,

As you may know, there is concern that the nation may experience an active flu season with the “regular” flu and the H1N1 flu. Therefore, we are taking steps that may reduce the spread of flu in our schools. We want to keep schools functioning in a normal manner during this flu season.

We are working with the Haywood County Health Department to monitor flu conditions and make decisions concerning schools. We will contact parents if the flu causes a change in the school schedule or if we believe a child should see a medical provider due to flu-like symptoms.

If the incidence of flu becomes severe, we may take additional steps such as:

- conducting fever and flu symptom screening of students and staff
- increasing the space between people and postponing trips or other activities
- dismissing students from school for at least seven (7) days if they become sick
- asking students with flu-like symptoms to wait in a private area and wear a mask until they can be picked up
- taking other steps recommended by county or state health officials

You can help limit the spread of flu and other communicable diseases by:

- encouraging children to wash their hands often with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub
- adults can set a good example by also washing hands frequently
- encouraging children not to share personal items like drinks, food, utensils, etc.
- encouraging children to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or covering coughs and sneezes using the arm or sleeve instead of the hand when tissue is unavailable
- knowing flu symptoms (cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, feeling very tired, vomiting, diarrhea and temperatures of 100 degrees or higher)
- keeping sick children at home until there is an absence of fever for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication

We are sending an informational flier home with additional information. You can also visit www.flu.gov. or call 1-800-CDC-INFO for the most current information about the flu.

Sincerely,

Anne G. Garrett, Ed.D.
Superintendent