

October 2, 2009

Parents:

This week the number of ill students has decreased and our attendance has improved. Although this is good news, it is still flu season. Since Monday (9/28) we have had 1 student who tested positive for influenza type A.

The current recommendations are that students (and school staff) remain at home until at least 24 hours after they are free of fever (100° F or greater), without the use of fever-reducing medications. These recommendations are from the CDC and Missouri Department of Health. **If the number of flu cases increases**, these recommendations may change (example... increase number of days student is excluded from school and excluding household members).

Prevention is still the number one way to stop the spread of the flu. These are some of the things we are doing:

- water fountain/doorknob clearing during the day
- teachers have sanitizing wipes to use in their rooms and in the computer lab
- routine cleaning
- hand washing promotion *K-5th grade also participated in the "WHACK the Flu" hand washing education. This program is from the Missouri Department of Health. The kids enjoyed a skit performed by high school students. Activity booklets were given to the students and a poster was given to each teacher.*

For more information you can call the school at 573-598-4241, or you can visit www.flu.gov or call 1-800-CDC-INFO for the most current information about the flu. We will notify you of any additional changes to our school's strategy to prevent the spread of flu.

Sincerely,

Michelle Miller, RN

South Iron School Nurse