

May 1, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I would like to share with you the latest information that I have received from our state and local officials regarding the Swine Flu. There have been confirmed cases of the Swine Flu in the United States. There are no reported or suspected cases currently at Panther Valley. I am in contact with the Department of Health and the Director of the Carbon County Emergency Management Office. Both agencies confirm that NO official recommendations have been handed down at this time.

The health, safety and welfare of all the students, staff and school community is our main goal. Keep in mind being prepared is one of the best prevention techniques to protect your family. The District is monitoring student absences daily and we are taking extra precautions in cleaning our facilities.

At this time, personal hygiene is still the best method to prevent illness. The following are recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to keep in mind.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Cover your nose or mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing
- Dispose of dirty tissues promptly and carefully
- Avoid sharing cups and glasses
- Stay home when sick to prevent the spread of illness

As always, if your child is exhibiting flu-like symptoms that include fever, cough and sore throat, consult with your physician. When your school-age child is sick with flu-like illness, this illness should be reported immediately to the school nurse. This will help in reporting trends to the Department of Health.

The Panther Valley School District has a Pandemic Plan on file. The administration will monitor the situation and keep the community well informed as the issue rapidly evolves. All decisions will be made to ensure the safety of the entire school community.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Poremba  
Superintendent of Schools