



Dear Parents,

These winter months are cold and flu season, in addition to COVID-19. It is a great time to remind our school community of the measures we take to keep students healthy and prevent the spread of communicable diseases.

- We reinforce the following with our students: wash hands frequently, wear masks, eat healthy meals, drink plenty of water, get at least 8 hours of sleep per day, and stay home if you are sick.
- In addition, we request that you, as parents, join us in keeping our school healthy by keeping your child home when he/she is sick. For example,
 - Students are to be fever-free for 24 hours **WITHOUT** the use of a fever reducing medication before returning to school.
 - Student with vomiting or diarrhea are to be symptom-free for 24 hours before returning to school.
 - Students with blisters and/or honey-colored crusts should remain home until cleared by a doctor or until after 24 hours of antibiotic treatment.
 - Students with purulent eye drainage may attend school once they have started treatment or clearance from a doctor stating non-infectious.
 - Students with influenza should remain home for at least 5 days after the first symptoms appear (more if fever persists) to insure complete recovery and avoid transmission to other students as recommended by the Johnson County Department of Health and Environment (JCDHE).
 - Students with symptoms of or exposure to COVID-19 should stay home while you contact the school nurse for further instructions for the earliest possible return.

As a parent, you can anticipate that COVID-19 and influenza will be in our local community, including our schools. January and February are typically the months with the highest number of cases of illness. Notices of individual incidents of illness are not sent home in backpacks. Instead, consistent healthy habits, remaining home when sick, and exclusion of ill students by school nurses are utilized to control the spread of communicable illness. You will be notified if your child has an exposure to COVID-19. Thank you for reinforcing these healthy habits with our students. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our school nurse.

Thank you,

Olathe Public Schools, Health Services