

Englewood Schools



Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is a value at Englewood Schools to communicate and clarify situations that concern health and safety. Our school is experiencing an unusually high level of absence due to influenza-like symptoms. Your student will report to you a wide range of student attendance from period to period in school today.

Tri County Health and CDC urge parents to keep children at home if they have symptoms of influenza-like illness such as a fever, cough and/or sore throat. Children should be kept at home for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without fever reducing medications. A fever is defined as 100° F. I urge you to develop a plan should your student become ill and need to be kept home from school. If your student develops these symptoms while at school, we will ask you to please pick up your student immediately to prevent the illness from spreading. We are asking for your help in making sure that our students are healthy when they attend school and that they stay home when they are sick.

Flu spreads easily. It is important to teach your student how to reduce their risk of getting the flu and protect others from infection. Please be sure your student knows to:

- **Clean hands frequently.** Washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds is ideal.
- **Use hand sanitizer** if hand washing facilities are unavailable. Gels, rubs, and hand wipes all work well, as long as they contain at least 60% alcohol.
- **Cover coughs and sneezes** with tissues or cough into the inside of the elbow, not your hands.
- **Not share personal items** like drinks, food or unwashed utensils.

You may access our district webpage at www.engagewood.k12.co.us to find more precautions regarding the flu.

Teachers are aware that many students are absent these days and will follow the normal absence procedures for homework. We have been preparing for this possibility since the beginning of the school year.

While we don't want to unduly alarm you, we believe it is best for you to know about this increase in absences. In addition, we will continue to monitor our daily absences in coordination with district personnel and Tri-County Health. We will continue to keep you informed. Thanks for your cooperation as we work together on this.

Sincerely,

Englewood Schools Administration