



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT,
AND VITAL STATISTICS

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

Montgomery Township School District is working with Montgomery Township Health Department to respond to the novel H1N1 flu. Public Health officials are concerned that the virus will re-emerge this fall, with the potential to cause widespread absenteeism and illness. Our response is in accordance with federal Centers for Disease Control and New Jersey State guidance.

As you may know, flu can be easily spread from person to person. Therefore, we are taking steps to reduce the spread of flu in Montgomery Township Schools. We want to keep the school open to students and functioning in a normal manner during this flu season, **but we need your help to do this:**

1. **Do not send children to school if they are sick.** Any children who are determined to be sick while at school will be sent home.
2. **Keep sick children at home** for at least 24 hours after they no longer have fever or do not have signs of fever, without using fever-reducing drugs. Keeping children with a fever at home will reduce the number of people who may get infected.
3. **Plan for your child to be out for 3 to 5 days** if they have flu symptoms. Parents must provide a note upon their child's return to school stating:
 - a. Time and date of last fever-reducing medication
 - b. Time and date of last temperature check and temperature recordedStudents may be asked to check in with the school nurse to verify that they are well enough to be in school.
4. **Teach your children to wash their hands** often with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub. You can set a good example by doing this yourself.
5. **Teach your children to cover their coughs and sneezes** with tissues or using the elbow, arm or sleeve instead of the hand when a tissue is unavailable.
6. **Teach your children not to share personal items** like drinks, food or unwashed utensils.
7. **Know the signs and symptoms of the flu.** Symptoms of the flu include fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit, 37.8 degrees Celsius or greater), cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and feeling very tired. Some people may also vomit or have diarrhea.

For more information, visit www.flu.gov or call 1-800-CDC-INFO for the most current information about the flu. For more information about flu in our community and what our school is doing, visit www.mtsd.k12.nj.us. We will notify you of any additional changes to our school's strategy to prevent the spread of flu.

Sincerely,

Earl Kim
Superintendent
Montgomery Township School District

Stephanie Carey, MPH
Health Officer
Montgomery Township Health Department



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.