

Terry Ryker
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Dear Parents and Faculty,

As you may know, flu can be spread easily from person to person. Therefore, we are taking steps to prevent the spread of flu at Herrin High School for as long as possible, but **we need your help to accomplish this.**

We are working closely with BiCounty Health Department to monitor flu conditions. We will keep you updated with new information as it becomes available to us. For now, we are doing everything we can to keep our school operating as usual. Here are a few things you can do to help:

- **Practice good hand hygiene** by washing your hands with soap and water especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based cleaners are also effective.
- **Practice respiratory etiquette** by covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow or shoulder, not into your hands. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth; germs are spread this way.
- **Know the signs and symptoms of the flu.** A fever is a temperature taken with a thermometer that is equal to or greater than 100 degrees. Look for possible signs of fever: the person feels very warm, has a flushed appearance, or is sweating or shivering.
- **Stay home if you have flu or flu-like illness** for at least 24 hours after you no longer have a fever(100 degrees) or signs of a fever (have chills, feel very warm, have a flushed appearance, or are sweating). This should be determined without the use of fever-reducing medications (any medication containing ibuprofen or acetaminophen like Motrin or Tylenol). If you have a fever, don't go to class or work.
- **Talk with your health care providers about whether you should be vaccinated for seasonal flu.** If you are at higher risk for flu complications from 2009 H1N1 flu, you should consider getting the H1N1 vaccine when it becomes available. People at higher risk for 2009 H1N1 flu complications include pregnant women and people with chronic medical conditions (such as asthma, heart disease or diabetes).

If you have any questions, please call our School Nurse, Lisa Conley, RN, BSN at 942-6606.

Sincerely,

Lisa Conley, RN, BSN
Herrin High School Nurse