

**FAIRFIELD CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**6405 Avenue D**  
**Fairfield, Alabama 35064**

**Dr. Anthony C. Greene**  
**Superintendent**

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August 20, 2009

Dear Parent:

This letter will give you information about an outbreak of flu in Jefferson County. Every year, some people get sick with the flu during the fall and winter months. This year, there is a new flu virus in our county that is making many people sick. Health officials call it a “pandemic flu”.

At this time, the Jefferson County Health Department tells us that students who are not ill can safely come to school. The schools will remain open. We will continue to send you updates on any important information. A suspected case has been reported in the Fairfield City School System.

To keep the flu from spreading to more people, we ask you to keep sick children at home. Any children who are sick in school will be sent home.

Public health officials want you to protect yourself and your family against pandemic flu. Here are some ways to stop the spread of germs and sickness:

- If your children are sick, keep them at home. Do not send them to school.
- Teach your children to wash their hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds. Be sure to set a good example by doing this yourself.
- Teach your children to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or by coughing into the inside of the elbow. Be sure to set a good example by doing this yourself.
- Teach your children to stay at least three feet away from people who are sick.
- People who are sick should stay home from work or school, and they should stay away from other people until they are better.
- Stay away from shopping malls, movie theaters, or other places where there are large groups of people.

To help families get ready in the event of a pandemic flu outbreak, we are enclosing with this letter a checklist entitled “Tips for Parents on Coping with Pandemic Flu.” The information can help your family get ready for an emergency.

If you have questions, please contact your school nurse or health care provider. You can also call the school or the Jefferson County Health Department at 205-933-9110.

If the pandemic flu continues to spread and more students become ill, students may be dismissed from school for days or weeks. The purpose of student dismissals will be to keep children from getting sick. If students are dismissed, children should stay at home. Begin planning now for child care in your home.

We will notify you of any change in recommendations during the course of a pandemic flu outbreak.

Sincerely,

Dr. Anthony C. Greene, Superintendent