



August 13, 2009

Dear Parent:

Due to the reported cases of the H1N1 influenza A virus, more commonly known as swine flu, in Finney County, we wanted to let you know what Garden City Public City Schools is doing regarding this issue. Swine flu is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through coughing or sneezing of infected people. The symptoms of swine flu in humans are similar to the symptoms of seasonal flu and include:

- **Fever greater than 100 degrees**
- Body aches
- Coughing
- Sore throat
- Sometimes headache, runny nose, vomiting, or diarrhea

In an effort to help stop the spread of the H1N1 flu in our community, we are asking parents to be sure and monitor your child for these signs and symptoms before sending them to school. If your child is ill please notify the school that you will keep them home due to illness. When you call the school, we will be asking you what your child's symptoms are: fever, cough, sore throat, etc. This information is to help USD #457 and Finney County Health Department track the possible spread of illness in our community. If your child becomes ill at school we will be contacting you to pick them up from school. If your doctor or health department confirms that your child has the H1N1 flu, please bring a copy of the confirmation to school for their health record.

Please do not let your sick child participate in group activities. Keep your sick child at home for 7 days or 24 hours after symptoms end. Special arrangements may be made with your school principal to pickup your student's homework assignments.

The health and safety of our students are a top priority for our district. USD #457 strives to maintain a safe and positive learning environment for all students and staff.

Sincerely,

Polly Witt
Health Services Coordinator