



PINE BUSH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Philip G. Steinberg, Superintendent of Schools

Deborha Brush, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services

Joan M. Carbone, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

Mission Statement

Our mission is to prepare students for success in life

October 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We have begun to see cases of influenza and influenza-like-illness (ILI) in schools across our District. We are tracking our daily attendance and absenteeism due to illness.

If you suspect your child is getting the flu, call your primary care provider. It is important that he/she does not attend school or go anywhere else. Flu-like symptoms include: fever, body aches, runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea.

The flu passes easily from person to person, which is why it is so important that all sick individuals, including parents, students, visitors and staff, remain out of our schools until well. Your help in adhering to this request will help us keep our school community less exposed to the virus. We understand that many parents and students strive for perfect attendance, but the Orange County Department of Health has advised school districts to discontinue attendance awards at this time. We will be honoring this advice as part of our response plan to protect the health and safety of our school community. We will reconsider the attendance award in the future.

Please review these healthy habits with your children.

Healthy Habits

- **Wash your hands often with soap and warm water.**
- **Stay home from school or work if you are sick until 24 hours free of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication.**
- **Use tissues when you cough or sneeze or cough into the inside of your elbow.**
- **Keep your hands away from your face and avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.**
- **Refrain from sharing personal items such as forks, spoons, toothbrushes and towels.**

If you have any questions, please contact your physician or health care provider. For further information please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu>, <http://www.nyhealth.gov> or www.orangecountygov.com.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our children and our school community healthy.

Sincerely,

Philip G. Steinberg
Superintendent of Schools