

April 28, 2009

**Dear Charleston County Parents and Guardians:**

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to address any concerns or questions you might have about the “Swine Flu.”

**Dr. Nancy J. McGinley**  
Superintendent of Schools

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Please do not panic—there are no confirmed cases of Swine Flu in our schools, and every precaution is being taken to keep it this way. The Charleston County School District and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) are working together to prevent the spread of Swine Flu by keeping in close touch with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); communicating with staff, students, and parents; and following the same kinds of universal precautions that have helped us in the fight against seasonal flu and other viruses.

Please see the enclosed information sheet on Swine Flu prevention in our schools. As a reminder, common-sense tips apply to seasonal and Swine flu infections. These include:

- Covering your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze;
- Throwing tissues in the trash after you use them;
- Washing your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze.
- Using alcohol-based hand cleaners;
- Not touching your eyes, nose or mouth (germs are easily spread this way);
- Trying to avoid close contact with sick people; and
- If you or your child gets sick, following the CDC’s suggestion and staying home from work or school, and limiting contact with others.

Please **call your healthcare provider** or **contact your school nurse immediately** if you suspect that your child may have a Swine Flu infection. For more information, visit [www.ccsdschools.com](http://www.ccsdschools.com); call **DHEC at (843) 953-0095**; or contact our Office of Communications at 937-6303.

Thank you for your cooperation on this very important issue, and for helping us to keep your child safe, healthy and learning.

Sincerely,



Nancy J. McGinley, Ed.D.