



SUFFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of Special Services

Diana Kelley, Ed.D.
Director of Special Services

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Dear SPS Families,

First and foremost, our nursing team would like to wish our Suffield Public Schools families a very healthy and happy new year!

As we enter early January, we are facing many of the typical illnesses that this season brings. Influenza is in full swing, and we are seeing an uptick in COVID cases locally, as well as nationwide. In addition to these infections and the typical seasonal allergies and common colds, there have already been reported cases of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Pneumonia, and Streptococcus within the district. With many of these diagnoses having similar symptoms, we anticipate that this season will be very challenging for us to navigate throughout each of our schools.

To keep our students and staff as healthy as possible throughout the remaining months of winter, we are sending home this helpful reminder of our district's illness protocols:

- If your child has a fever (temperature greater than 100 degrees), they will need to remain home until they are fever free for 24 hours without medication;
- If your child is dismissed from school due to a fever, they will need to remain home the following day and until they are fever free without medication for 24 hours;
- If your child is ill with vomiting and/or diarrhea, they will need to remain home until they are free of these symptoms for 24 hours and are well enough to return to school;
- If your child is ill with COVID, they will need to remain home for 5 days following the onset of symptoms or a positive test – presuming symptoms are improving.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to the school's health clinics with any questions or concerns. Open communication with your child's school nurse is key to our top priority of keeping our students and community safe. We thank you in advance for your collaboration and patience!

Sincerely,

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