

# WHARTON BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

[www.wbps.org](http://www.wbps.org)

*"In partnership with the community, the Wharton School district is committed to educational excellence and guarantees challenging learning opportunities for all students to become life-long learners and productive and responsible members of society. It is the expectation of this school district that all pupils achieve the new jersey core curriculum content standards at all grade levels."*

## **Marie V. Duffy Elementary School**

*"Governor's School of Excellence"*  
Pamela S. Blalock, Principal

## **Alfred C. MacKinnon Middle School**

Christopher J. Herdman, Principal

Richard Bitondo  
Superintendent

Vito Dellibovi  
Business Administrator

Alan Bocchino  
Supervisor  
Curriculum/Instruction

Alice Steinheimer  
Director of Special Education  
& Child Study Team Services

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Guidance  
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April 28, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians:

In response to a rising concern over swine flu, the Wharton and Mine Hill School Districts are taking a proactive approach. We have mobilized our school nurses and health educators to meet with all students over the next two days. In most cases, grade level assemblies will be conducted with the predominant theme being personal hygiene.

- Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Wash hands frequently, particularly after coughing or sneezing
- Stay home if you're sick, especially with a fever

Of course our tone will be reassuring as we do not want to create excessive anxiety.

We will also be stepping up our daily cleaning, particularly of surfaces which students and staff frequently contact, i.e. door handles, faucets, railings, etc. Our cleaning products are 99.9% effective against most contaminants.

We also urge you to access our district websites for an informational alert published by the NJ Department of Health and Senior Services. The alert also includes a myriad of resources for further research and reinforcement of proper hygiene.

For your information, the symptoms of swine flu are similar to seasonal flu and include fever, lack of appetite, coughing and fatigue. Some people have also reported having a sore throat, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Should any family member exhibit these symptoms, please seek immediate medical advice and contact the school nurse.

Please work with us by reinforcing healthy hygiene at home and remaining in close contact with the school nurse.

Sincerely,

Richard Bitondo  
Superintendent of Schools

137 East Central Avenue  
Wharton, NJ 07885