## Health Protocols for Student Illnesses

Cold and flu season range from October through April, with the peak months from December through February according to the <u>CDC</u>. Following the COVID pandemic the season for influenza has been less predictable. The nursing department encourages all students to obtain their flu vaccine after consulting with your physician.

**Keeping your sick child home will help him/her recover sooner and will help to prevent the spread of germs to others.** The following symptoms may indicate a contagious illness. Your child should be kept at home if any of the following occur:

- Fever of 100° the night prior to or the morning of school; students must be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school without fever reducing medication.
- Headache **unrelieved** by Tylenol or Ibuprofen.
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea within the past 24 hours; students must be vomit/diarrhea-free for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Sore throat lasting 2-3 days; a visit to the doctor may be needed to rule out strep throat.
- Drainage from the eyes; red, itchy, and/or crusty eyes
- Excessive coughing unrelieved by cough drops or cough medicine.
- Rash (unless determined to be non-communicable by a physician)
- Abdominal pain
- Dizziness or chills
- Stiff neck or headache not caused by an accident or fall

If your child tests positive for COVID, the following guidelines apply:

- Notification of absence per District policy
- Report orally or a picture of a negative test

We follow the guidance of the Delaware County Health Department (DCHD) and there is a link for local testing information. DCHD refers to the CDC on isolation and quarantine, so I have that link below as well.

https://delcopa.gov/covid/testing.html - Testing information

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/isolation.html?CDC\_AA\_refVal=https%3A%2F %2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fyour-health%2Fquarantine-isolation.html -

## **Isolation and quarantine Info**

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/if-you-were-exposed.html- Exposure

The nursing department is available to assist with any questions that persist after reading the current CDC and DCHD guidelines.

The WSSD Nursing Department Debbie Sweeney, RN, BSN, CSN Nursing Department Chair