



Wrightstown Community School District
PO Box 128 | Wrightstown, Wisconsin 54180

September 17, 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back! We are so happy to have your children back in our buildings for the 2014/2015 school year!

As a staff and as a community, our focus continues to be on the mission of the Wrightstown Community School District of providing 'a quality education for every student' and the vision of 'excellence in student achievement'. Your child's health and overall well-being are essential in this mission, which is the purpose of this letter.

The enclosed notice has been released from the Brown County Health Department addressing all illnesses, including the Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68). As you may have heard, the Enterovirus D68 is a respiratory virus that has been affecting children throughout the Midwest. This resource provides good reminders of methods to prevent the spread of all illnesses, including the Enterovirus D68.

For additional information on the prevention of the spread of illnesses, visit www.cdc.gov and enter EV-D68 in the search box. You may also call the Brown County Health Department at (920) 448-6400.

Your partner in education,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caroline A. Mihalski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

Caroline A. Mihalski
Director of Student Services
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mihalski@wrightstown.k12.wi.us

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Brown County

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JUDY FRIEDERICHS, R.N., B.S.N

PHONE (920) 448-6400 FAX (920) 448-6449 WEB: www.co.brown.wi.us

DIRECTOR

Dear Parents,

The influenza and respiratory season has started. This is to provide information on the Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68), which is a respiratory illness now present in 12 states and reported recently in the media. While the EV-D68 is not a new virus, it is uncommon, causes respiratory illness, and has the ability to become severe in certain individuals. Both viruses (EV-D68 and influenza) typically peak in fall.

The symptoms for the EV-D68 virus are similar to an intense cold, including coughing, sneezing, runny nose, congestion, and wheezing. Influenza symptoms may include fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, congestions, body aches, headache, chills, fatigue, and sometimes vomiting and diarrhea.

Both respiratory viruses are spread when an infected person coughs, sneezes, and/or touches another person/surface. The Center for Disease Control recommends these methods to prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses:

- **Wash hands frequently with soap and water. Have children sing “Happy Birthday” or count to 20 while washing hands to ensure appropriate washing time.**
- **Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.**
- **Avoid kissing, hugging, and sharing cups/eating utensils with sick people.**
- **Disinfect touched surfaces (i.e. toys, doorknobs, counters) frequently.**
- **Encourage others to cover their cough with their elbows. This will prevent bacteria and sputum from going on hands and transferring to surfaces and other people.**

Currently, there is no vaccine available to prevent the EV-D68 infections. There are yearly vaccines available for influenza; parents should contact the family physician or the Brown County Health Department to set up an appointment for vaccination. Please note that individuals vaccinated against influenza can still become infected.

If a family member develops respiratory virus symptoms noted above, the individual should stay home until the worst of the symptoms have subsided and fever is gone for 24 hours without the use of medications. Parents should consult with a physician regarding ongoing health concerns and **report to the emergency room if a family member has difficulty breathing.**

For additional information, visit www.cdc.gov and enter EV-D68. For further information, parents may also call the Brown County Health Department at (920) 448-6400.

