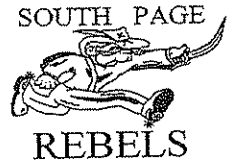


South Page Community School District

Blanchard-Braddyville-College Springs-Coin-Shambaugh
Box 98, College Springs, Iowa 51637
Phone: 1-712-582-3211



Gregg Cruickshank
Superintendent

Denise Green
PK-12 Principal

Dear Parents:

This letter is to provide you information on the Enterovirus D68 (EV-D68), which is a respiratory illness now present in many states including Iowa and Missouri. This virus has been recently covered in the media. The EV-D68 is not a new virus it has just been uncommon. It causes respiratory illness and has the ability to become severe in certain individuals.

The symptoms of EV-D68 virus are very similar to a "bad cold" including coughing, sneezing, runny nose, congestion, wheezing and fever. Respiratory viruses are spread when an infected person coughs, sneezes and or touches other people or surfaces. The Center of Disease Control recommends these methods to prevent the spread:

- **Wash hands frequently with soap and water. Hand sanitizer does not kill this respiratory illness. Soap and water is the key to preventing the spread of illness.**
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands**
- **Avoid kissing, hugging and sharing cups, eating utensils and bottled drinks**
- **Disinfect touched surfaces (toys, doorknobs, counters) frequently**
- **Encourage others to cover their cough with their arm or elbow and not their hands. This will prevent sputum from getting on hands and transferring to other surfaces and people.**

Currently there is no vaccine available to prevent EV-D68. If a family member develops respiratory virus symptoms like the ones listed above, the individual should stay home until the worst of the symptoms subside and he/she is fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication. Parents

For addition information you can go to www.cdc.gov

As always feel free to contact the school nurses office with questions regarding health concerns should consult with a physician regarding ongoing healthcare concerns and report to the emergency room if family members are having difficulty breathing.

Lisa Hartley RN
South Page Schools Nurse