

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

**ANTOINE L. HICKMAN
CHIEF SUPPORT INITIATIVES & RECOVERY OFFICER**

Signature on File

January 31, 2020

TO: All Principals

FROM: Antoine L. Hickman, Ed.D.
Chief Support Initiatives & Recovery Officer

VIA: Valerie S. Wanza, Ph.D.
Chief School Performance & Accountability Officer

SUBJECT: **FLU PARENT LETTER**



ACTION: The Center for Disease Control and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends routine annual influenza vaccination for all persons aged 6 months and older who do not have contraindications to the vaccines. Not only does the vaccination help protect you from getting the flu; it also helps stop the spread of the virus to others at school, work and home. Please distribute the attached Florida Department of Health parent letter.

RATIONALE: According to The Center For Disease Control (CDC) estimated influenza-associated deaths average 49,000 people annually. Influenza viruses typically circulate widely in the United States from the late fall (October) through early spring (May). Influenza (Flu) is a contagious disease caused by influenza viruses, which spreads mainly from person to person when an infected person coughs or sneezes near others.

Health experts also suggest that another way to prevent acquiring the flu is by performing proper handwashing. The CDC has made the following recommendations to help prevent the spread of the virus.

- Cover mouth and nose with a tissue when sneezing or coughing
- Cough into your elbow
- Wash hands often with proper handwashing techniques and/or use hand sanitizers.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth
- Stay home when sick and encourage parents of sick children to keep them at home
- Do not share eating utensils, drinking glasses or other personal items
- Touching an inanimate object with flu viruses on it, such as doorknobs, elevator buttons, desktops, and then touching the mouth or nose also may infect people; therefore, wash hands/use hand sanitizers

For further questions, please contact **Coordinated Student Health Services at 754-321-1575.**

VSW/ALH/MB:etb
Attachment

C: Senior Leadership Team