

Hello Pirate Families,

Hopefully you are all enjoying this wonderful weather that feels nothing like a normal February! Of course, with this wonderful weather, we are also seeing an uptick in illness throughout the school. Specifically, we have noticed an increase in illness in the schools including Influenza B, strep-throat and stomach bugs. We want to make sure that we do our best to reduce the spread of any of these illnesses and other viruses and bacteria both at the schools and home so we can have as many people in attendance at school as possible. In order to accomplish this, we are asking for your help in practicing and reiterating these basic strategies to family members:

• Wash hands after using the toilet.

 \cdot Wash hands before handling food or ice.

• Wash hands before eating.

 \cdot Refrain from food handling duties if currently ill and for 3 days after diarrhea and vomiting have stopped.

 \cdot Discard foods that have been handled or prepared by someone who is or has recently had vomiting or diarrhea.

· Promptly clean and disinfect any surfaces that become soiled with vomit or diarrhea.

· Ill staff and children should remain at home until 48 hours after diarrhea and/or vomiting cease, or until stools are formed.

-If no vomiting or diarrhea, ill staff and children should remain home until 24 hours after being fever free. A fever is 100.4 degrees and above.

-Education on proper hand hygiene should be emphasized upon return to school.

Thank you all for taking steps to reduce the spread of illness. Please call the school nurse, Jill, at 319-842-2261 or e-mail jhunt@alburnettcsd.org with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

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Will Dible Superintendent Alburnett Schools