



School Network for Absenteeism Prevention

Dear Parents and Families!

We want to take the opportunity to tell you about a wonderful program called “IT’S A SNAP” that will be presented at your child’s school. The Dougherty County School System, in partnership with the Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital Network of Trust School Health Program, will begin a campaign to decrease school absences due to colds and flu. Other partners in this program are Dougherty County Health Department, PPMH Infection Control and Fulton Paper Company who provided equipment.

The best way to prevent the spread of germs is through good hand hygiene. Many of your children already use hand gel to clean their hands. Each school will now have 3 Purell Automatic Hand Sanitizers placed in the school. These easy to use no touch devices will be placed in high traffic areas for convenient use. Students are encouraged to wash their hands with soap and water and when that is not possible, to use the alcohol gel. There will be classroom instruction on proper hand hygiene methods. For more information go to “It’s a Snap” website at www.itsasnap.org

HOW GERMS SPREAD:

1. Direct = you get the germs *directly* from someone (coughs, sneezes on you).
2. Indirect = you touch something that has germs on it (door handle, pen, chair, etc.)

HOW TO HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF VIRAL AND BACTERIAL ILLNESSES:

1. Good hand Hygiene (washing hands or using alcohol gel)
2. Cover the cough/sneeze (with tissue or cough/sneeze into a shirt sleeve or elbow)

Working together, we can keep our wonderful children healthy and happy at home and at school.