



January 23, 2018

Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff:

I write to share the latest State of CT Department of Public Health advisory and our preparedness regarding statewide health concern over the spread of influenza in schools. To begin, please be assured that we are not announcing a major influenza epidemic. However, we are mindful of this year's flu virus and assure you that we are maintaining our meticulous nightly cleaning routines. These nightly cleaning patterns include wiping down surfaces and objects that are touched often, such as desktops, countertops, doorknobs, computer keyboards, hands-on-learning objects, faucet handles and phones. I am confident that our routine cleaning methods and materials conform to those most recommended by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) as communicated to the CT Dept. of Public Health. That said, we will continue to augment our preventive position by working very closely with our school nurses, Tina Bennett tbennett@westbrookctschoools.org and Bianca Dito bdito@westbrookctschoools.org and following the advisement of the Dept. of Public Health (DPH); all of whom are monitoring and guiding our efforts to protect students and staff from any exposure that we may be able to minimize. I am including the latest fact sheet from the DPH regarding environmental controls to limit the spread of influenza in schools. Please help us by letting your students know that regular hand washing is also a critical deterrent for containing the flu. Our custodians are careful to make sure there is a continuous supply of restroom disinfectant/soap available. We hope you will support the value of regular hand washing as well. Again, please be assured that in all health issues, our first concern will be for the health and well-being of everyone and we will follow the appropriate guidelines and protocols to protect everyone in our schools.

Thank you and, as always, please contact me with any questions or concerns.