

**JEMEZ VALLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
PREPARING FOR THE FLU
Following Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control**

What Parents can do to prepare for flu during the 2009-2010 school year (see handout from CDC)

- Plan for child care at home if your child gets sick or their school is dismissed (for a minimum of 5 school days)
- Plan to monitor your sick child's health and other children's health by checking for fever and other flu symptoms.
- Update emergency contact lists.
- Identify a separate room in your house for the care of sick family members. Consider designating a single person as the main caregiver for sick family members.
- Gather games, books, DVDs and other items to keep your child busy while at home sick.
- Get your family members vaccinated for seasonal flu and 2009 H1N1 flu when the vaccines are available.

What is JVPS doing to prepare for flu response during the 2009-2010 school year?

- Review and revise existing pandemic plans and focus on protecting high risk students and staff.
The School Health Advisory Council met to develop a preparation, prevention, and response plan for seasonal and H1N1 flu for all students and staff members.
- Update student and staff contact information, as well as emergency contact lists.
JVPS has updated contact information for students and staff at the schools. The district has an automated telephone calling system that can be initiated to alert parents and staff in the event of school closures.
- Identify and establish a point of contact with the local public health agency.
Averye Parrett is the district contact for the Department of Health.
- Develop a plan to cover key positions, such as the school nurse, when staff stay home because they are sick.
JVPS has a list of individuals available to substitute for teachers, educational assistants, custodians, and school nurse.
- Set up a separate room (a sick room) for care of sick students or staff until they can be sent home.
At JVPS individuals who become sick will stay in the health office at the middle or high school, whichever is appropriate, until they can be sent home.
- Purchase Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as masks for nurses and other staff providing care for sick people at school. Provide training for this staff about basic infection control and the use of PPE.
JVPS has protective equipment available for our school nurse to use when