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Nurse Amy and Nurse Farrow are here to care for the health of all students and staff at Pershing and we're so glad you're here! Please call us anytime with questions or concerns: 523-2430

***If your child is new to Pershing or has had any changes in their health status please return a Student Health Inventory (located on the website) when your student comes to school.***

We ask you to be aware that illness guidelines are very different this year due to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Please read carefully the Parent Guidelines for when to keep your child home for certain symptoms and what to do if the nurse sends your child home for any symptoms.

SPS is asking all parents to check temps prior to school every day and to ask their child a number of questions about how they're feeling each morning so as to avoid spreading this virus and to help keep our schools safe and open.

If you have need of a thermometer at home and financial difficulty buying one please call us and we may be able to assist you.

Two of the many weird things about this virus is that it presents differently in children than in adults **and** that the lack of a fever is not a reliable indicator for pre-symptomatic individuals.

If other symptoms exist, students will be required to remain out of school according to the COVID-19 Return to School Guidelines.

We have missed seeing the faces of your children so much and truly hope we can all work together to maintain the seated learning option so that our young ones get to learn and have fun together at school!

Keep those hands washed, wear your masks, and get plenty of sleep!!

With your health in mind, Amy and Farrow

PARENT GUIDELINES: When should I keep my child home from school? Every day, before coming to school, we ask parents/guardians to check and ask their child if they have any of the following symptoms and/or exposure:

- Fever – temperature 100.4 degrees or greater.
  - Cough
  - Rash
  - Sore throat/swollen glands
  - Shortness of breath
  - Runny nose or congestion
  - Diarrhea
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Fatigue
  - Headache
  - Muscle pain
  - Lack of appetite
  - Loss of taste or smell
  - Red, itchy, watery eyes
  - Persistent earache
  - Close contact with a person with COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- We ask students who have had any of the above symptoms in the past 24 hours to stay home from school and/or until symptoms resolve without medication to relieve symptom(s).
  - We ask students who have taken any fever-reducing medications such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen in the past 24 hours to stay home until they are fever-free without the use of medication for 24 hours.
  - We ask students who feel healthy but have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 to stay home and monitor their health until 14 days after their last exposure.

What happens if my child is sent home from school? A student will be sent home with any of the following:

- Temperature of 100.4 degrees or more
- Nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea
- Symptoms related to possible communicable disease (skin rashes, redness of eyes, swollen glands, etc.)
- Excessive drainage from eyes, ears, persistent earache, constant cough; or painful sore throat accompanied by enlarged lymph nodes
- Students with (or having the potential to transmit) an acute infectious disease or parasite
- Head lice and/or nits

*If a student is sent home from school due to illness, the student must remain at home for the full school day following the day dismissed. In addition, the student must be symptom free without administration of any fever reducing medications or other medications to relieve symptoms for at least 24 hours before returning to school.*

**If a student is sent home with COVID-19 like symptoms,** the student may return when student has:

- Resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications for at least 24 hours **and**
- Improvement of symptoms without use of medication to control symptoms, **and**
- Written documentation of differential diagnosis (allergies, ear infection, strep, contact dermatitis, etc.) from MD/DO/NP including a statement from the provider regarding not recommending COVID-19 testing.

If the parent/guardian does not choose to contact the student's provider for symptom evaluation and/or seek COVID-19 testing, the student is excluded for 14 days.

Students returning to school after injury, including concussion and/or surgery with crutches, casts or slings should present a physician release to return to school along with a written request for any necessary modifications or accommodations.

Please discuss any questions regarding when to return to school with the school nurse and/or health services.