

# FANNIN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

2290 East First Street  
Blue Ridge, Georgia 30513  
Phone: 706-632-3771 Fax: 706-632-7583  
[www.fannin.k12.ga.us](http://www.fannin.k12.ga.us)

SUPERINTENDENT  
*Dr. Michael Gwatney*

BOARD MEMBERS  
*Chad Galloway*  
*Terry Bramlett*  
*Bobby Bearden*  
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Dear Parents,

This letter will give you information about a virus outbreak in Georgia. This year there is a new virus that is making many people sick. So many people are sick that United States health officials call it a “pandemic virus.” A virus case has been confirmed in Georgia and in a Georgia school district. We have no confirmed or probable cases in our school district. If this changes, we will follow the CDC guidance and inform you of any changes in school operations.

At this time, the county health department tells us that students who are not ill can safely come to school. The schools will remain open. We will keep you updated with any important information.

To keep the virus from spreading to more people, we ask you to keep sick children home. Any children who are sick in school will be sent home. Public health officials want you to protect yourself and your family against pandemic virus. Here are some ways to stop the spread of germs and sickness:

- ✓ Keep children who are sick at home. Don’t send them to school.
- ✓ Teach your children to wash hands a lot with soap and water for 20 seconds. Be sure to set a good example by doing this yourself.
- ✓ Teach your children to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or by coughing into the inside of the elbow. Be sure to set a good example by doing this yourself.
- ✓ Teach your children to stay away at least three feet away from people who are sick.
- ✓ People who are sick should stay home from work or school and stay away from other people until they are better.

If the pandemic continues to spread and more students become ill, schools may close. The purpose of closing schools will be to keep children from getting sick. If schools are closed, children should stay at home. Begin planning now for childcare in your home. Recommendations may change during a pandemic outbreak.

If you have questions, please contact your school nurse or healthcare provider. You may also contact the local health department 706-632-3023. You may check the CDC website. The federal government has a website with information on planning for individuals and families:

<http://www.pandemicflu.gov>, as does the American Red Cross: <http://www.redcross.org>

Thanks

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Betsy Hyde'.

Betsy Hyde, Deputy Superintendent

It is the policy of Fannin County School System to not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, creed or disability in admission to its programs, services, and activities in access to them, in treatment of individuals or in any aspect of their operations to also include but not be limited to additions, modifications, or alterations to the physical plan of any school facility.