

May 11, 2012

Dear Suring School Parent/Guardian:

We have been informed by the Oconto County Health Department that there have been possible cases of Pertussis (Whooping Cough) in our school. As of today, May 11, 2012, there have been no confirmed cases of Pertussis.

Pertussis is spread by air through direct face-to-face contact with the person who is ill.

Pertussis begins with cold like symptoms and a cough that becomes much worse over 1-2 weeks. Symptoms usually include a long series of coughs ("coughing fits") followed by a whooping noise. However, older children, adults and very young infants may not develop the whoop. There is usually no fever. People with Pertussis may also have a series of coughs followed by vomiting, turning blue, or difficulty catching breath. The cough is often worse at night and cough medicines usually do not help lessen the cough.

A reminder that it is difficult for parents to determine the difference between common cold and other illness so if your child develops any symptoms of Pertussis (as described above) please immediately contact your health care provider.

If you have any questions about Pertussis, please call your health care provider. If you do not have a health care provider, call Oconto County Health Department at 920-834-7000.

Sincerely,

Karl Morrin
Principal Suring School

