



# Russell Independent Schools

908 Powell Lane  
Flatwoods, Kentucky 41139  
(606) 836-9679

**M. SEAN HORNE**  
Superintendent

Good Afternoon Russell Family,

I wanted to update the school community on the current flu epidemic that has hit our District. Some of our schools have experienced record low attendance and others have been significantly impacted as well. As a result, we are cancelling school for Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup> and Friday, January 25, 2019. **All** school activities will be cancelled on these days and all school buildings will be closed to anyone not involved in the sanitation process. Our custodial crews will work over the next two days to sanitize our buildings and buses to make it a healthy environment when our kids return. We appreciate your assistance in sanitizing your child's backpacks and other personal items during this time as well. Our goal is to resume normal activities Saturday, January 26, 2019 beginning at 8:00 a.m.

### **Why NOT NTI days NOW?**

It is very early in the winter stages to utilize our NTI days. Our preference is to have our kids in school face-to-face with their classroom teacher. NTI days do serve a purpose for our district, but on those days ALL staff are required to report to our schools for a normal workday and students would be required to complete coursework. Due to the amount of illness within the student body I do not want to burden those students with additional work during their recovery. I want to be conservative at this stage with utilization of the NTID program.

I apologize for any inconvenience this has caused anyone in our community and our hope is to be back in full swing on Monday, January 28, 2019. If you have any questions, concerns, or need to talk with anyone in my office, please call 606-836-9679.

M. Sean Horne