

# PORTAGE COUNTY LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

## JOINT COMMAND TEAM

---

Portage County Health Department  
Ravenna City Health Department  
Kent City Health Department

PCHD 330-296-9919  
RCHD 330-296-4478  
KCHD 330-678-8109

---

October 17, 2014

From: Portage County Local Health Departments

PIO: Becky Lehman, Director of Health Education  
330-296-9919, ext. 137

### A Message for Parents Regarding Ebola

At this time, based on the information collected by Summit County Public Health, there is no known threat to the public's health. The Portage County local health departments are not advocating for the closure of schools and the cancellation of events.

### Top Things Parents Need to Know about Ebola

1. **Your child is not at risk while attending school in Portage County.** A risk for Ebola only comes when you come into close contact with a person suffering from Ebola. The healthcare worker who passed through Summit County did not visit any schools or universities.
2. **Being near someone who is sick with Ebola does not mean you'll get infected.** The disease isn't contagious like the flu or common cold. You have to be in contact with a patient's body fluids or blood, and you have to have a break in your skin or have the fluids touch your eyes, mouth, or nose.
3. **Ebola does not live long on surfaces or outside someone's body.** Soaps, detergents, and hand sanitizers are effective at killing the virus. Keeping your area clean and washing your hands will help prevent infections.
4. **There are currently no known cases of Ebola in Ohio.** The threat of Ebola virus transmission in Portage County is extremely low.

