



August 26, 2009

As our community begins to prepare for and take precautions for an H1N1 (swine flu) outbreak, we want to assure you that Stillwater Public Schools (SPS) is doing the same. Our janitorial staffs are rigorously cleaning all desks, tables, chairs, bathrooms, doors, door knobs, and all other surfaces and equipment on a daily basis. All SPS students pre-k through 12th grade are currently being trained on proper cough and hand washing etiquette. Germ-X and sanitizing wipes are available to all students and teachers in every classroom. Additionally any student that leaves school with a fever may not return to their class room without being checked in by a designated staff member located at each school site. This staff member will re-check their temperature to assure that the student may return to their classroom.

While SPS prepares for an H1N1 outbreak, we would like to encourage families to develop a plan of action as what to do if you have a child(ren) that is home sick. Currently, people whom are infected with Influenza A or H1N1 are missing 5 to 7 days of work and/or school. Developing a family plan as what to do for babysitting, picking sick children up from school, having a safe place for them to stay or go to while you return to work, and protecting your other family members from getting sick are all important items to discuss.

SPS asks that all parents/guardians keep their children home from school if he/she has fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills or fatigue. If only one of these signs or symptoms is present, please keep your child home. SPS policy states that a child may not return to school until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication. **This means that if your child goes home at 11am from school and you give your child anti-fever medication at 2pm they are not allowed to return to school until 2pm the next day.**

Due to the nature of Influenza A and H1N1, we ask that you not crowd our local doctor offices and emergency rooms with the normal signs and symptoms of these types of flu as they need to "run their course." We do encourage you to seek medical attention if your child is having trouble breathing, not drinking enough fluids, is not interacting with you appropriately, or has a high fever.

While our school district diligently works with your child(ren) to ensure a safe and healthy environment we ask that you do the same. If you do not feel well or are sick, please do not enter our school buildings. If your child is sick, please keep them home. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Becky Danuser, the Elementary School Nurse at 707-5083 or Megan D. Steele, the Secondary School Nurse at 533-6416. We look forward to helping you and your family through this flu season.

Megan D. Steele, RN
Secondary School Nurse

Becky Danuser, RN
Elementary School Nurse

STILLWATER PUBLIC SCHOOLS