

May 1, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As you are probably well aware at this juncture, there is nationwide concern in response to the recent reporting of cases of Swine Flu (now referred to as the H1N1 virus). The Eatontown Public School District is monitoring the situation closely and our paramount concern is the safety of our entire school community. To date, there are no reported cases within the Eatontown School District. This fact does not lessen our concern here in the district, or our vigilance in dealing with the issue.

The administration is in direct and ongoing consultation with our school nurses, district physician and local and state departments of health for pertinent information in regards to the causes, prevention and treatment of this strain of influenza. Yesterday afternoon, I took part in a conference call with senior members of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services and the Commissioner of Education to become more familiar with the issue as it relates to school district directives.

The Department of Health and Senior Services, Center for Disease Control and our school district are urging the following:

- Wash your hands frequently, especially after coughing or sneezing. Use either soap and water or hand sanitizer.
- Dispose of used tissues in the trash – do not leave used tissues on the surfaces in common areas or on surfaces where others may come into contact.
- Avoid rubbing or touching your mouth, nose or eyes.

The most important recommendation is :

- If you or your child is sick or have a fever, sore throat, headache, fatigue, vomiting, coughing, body aches, chills or diarrhea (the signs and symptoms of influenza), please keep your child home and seek immediate medical treatment.

Should information regarding the Swine Flu change in relation to our school district, I will update you as soon as the information is available. Once again, the school district takes this matter very seriously and will work diligently with our school community to ensure compliance and safety. Should you need additional information regarding this issue, please visit the websites of:

Center for Disease Control: www.cdc.gov/SwineFlu

New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services: www.state.nj.us/health/

For your convenience we have added these links to our district website: www.eatontown.org

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Struble
Superintendent of Schools