

INFLUENZA UPDATE - June 12, 2009

As of June 12, 2009, we have no students with a confirmed case of H1N1 or swine flu. Although our absentee rate is within the average range for this month, we do have a higher than normal number of students who are out because of Influenza A or seasonal flu. We are in daily contact with the Middlesex County Department of Health and are following their protocols. As a result, students who are out of school with a fever, cough and sore throat will be required to remain home for 7 days. Students with a fever, respiratory congestion and a runny nose must remain home and may return to school 24-48 hours after they are symptom free. If students are absent on an exam day because of following these protocols, they will be given the opportunity to take a make-up exam upon their return to school.

School staff will be calling the homes of all absent students to find out why they are out and what their symptoms are, as well as if they tested positive for Influenza A or if they have tested positive for H1N1 (swine flu). When parents call in, they can assist us with the task by stating in their message the doctor's diagnosis and the symptoms their children are exhibiting. It will mean one less call for the school nurse or staff member and will greatly expedite the reporting process. This information has been requested by the Middlesex County Department of Health, to whom we report on a daily basis. Our custodians continue to do an excellent job of disinfecting our classrooms each day and we will continue to be proactive in our approaches to keep our students healthy and safe.