

Ron Huberman
Chief Executive Officer

Deborah E. Duskey
Chief Specialized Services Officer

September 4, 2009

Dear Parent or Guardian:

In cooperation with the Chicago Department of Public Health, Chicago Public Schools is taking the necessary precautions to promote the health and welfare of our students by enacting the 2009 H1N1 Flu (Swine Influenza) prevention and intervention plan. Fortunately, it is now known that 2009 H1N1 Flu (Swine Influenza) causes mild illness in most individuals, similar to the flu we see every winter. However, to protect the health of our students, all Chicago Public Schools will be following the updated guidelines below:

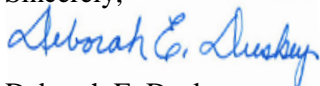
- All students with a fever of 100° Fahrenheit (F) or greater must remain home from school.
- If a student is documented as having a fever of 100° F or greater after arriving to school the school is required to send the student home with a parent or guardian.
- Students may return to school only after they have been without a fever for 24 hours without the use of medicine (i.e. Tylenol, Motrin, etc.) A healthcare provider's note is not required.

There are also certain children with underlying conditions that may be at increased risk for serious complications from the 2009 H1N1 Flu (Swine Influenza). These include:

- Children younger than 5 years of age
- Children with long-term health problems with:
 - heart disease
 - lung disease (including asthma)
 - kidney disease
 - metabolic disease (such as diabetes)
 - liver disease anemia (other blood disorders)
- Children with a weakened immune system due to:
 - HIV/AIDS or other diseases affecting the immune system
 - long-term treatment with drugs such as steroids
 - cancer treatment with x-rays or drugs
- Anyone with certain muscle or nerve disorders (such as seizure disorders or cerebral palsy) that can lead to breathing or swallowing problems
- Anyone 6 months through 18 years of age on long-term aspirin treatment (they could develop Reye Syndrome if they got influenza)
- Residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities.

If your child has any of the conditions listed above, you should call your medical provider to discuss whether any additional action is needed. A list of health care providers may be obtained by contacting 3-1-1. If you have any questions or concerns please contact your school or the Office of Specialized Services at 773-553-1830.

Sincerely,



Deborah E. Duskey,
Chief Specialized Services Officer