

2009/2010



In the State of Illinois, minimum health requirements for school exist that mandate that parents/guardians provide proof of required physical examinations, dental examinations, vision examinations, and immunizations or their students may be excluded from school (physical examination/ immunization only) and/or their report cards withheld (dental and vision examination).

On August 27, 2008 the Board of Education for the City of Chicago amended Board Report 05-0928-PO2, the Policy on Student Health Examinations, Immunizations and Dental Examinations. The amended language addresses Public Act 95-671 and includes:

At the time of student enrollment, the principal shall ensure that parents/guardians are asked to provide proof of the required health examination and immunizations. Proof must be provided to the school by October 15th (or the first day of enrollment if the student is enrolling after October 15th) by submitting a completed State of Illinois Certificate of Child Health Examination dated not more than one year prior to the start of the school year.

2009 H1N1 Flu (Swine Influenza): Student Dismissal Due to Fever (100° F or Higher)

In collaboration with the Chicago Department of Public Health, the Chicago Public Schools require that the following procedures must be followed regarding student dismissal in response to the 2009 H1N1 Flu (Swine Influenza):

- All students with a fever of 100 ° Fahrenheit 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 with evidence of a fever (100 °F or higher) should be promptly separated from other students and staff until the parent or guardian arrives.
- Schools should regularly update contact information for parents or guardians to ensure that they may be contacted more easily if they need to pick up their ill child.
- As facilities allows, ill students should be seated in well ventilated areas and placed in areas where at least six (6) feet of distance can be maintained between the ill person and others.
- A limited number of staff should be designated to care for ill persons until they can be sent home.
- 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 health-care provider's note is not required.
- In the event of a laboratory confirmed diagnosis of the 2009 H1N1 (swine influenza) virus, the principal will be provided a letter to parents stating the existence of a confirmed case and reviewing the preventative steps, including the student dismissal procedures, required by the school.

The 2009 H1N1 (swine influenza) causes mild illness in most individuals, similar to the flu we see every winter. Therefore, school closures are not recommended when students or school staff are diagnosed with 2009 H1N1 infections, unless there are special circumstances, such as a large number of students with compromised immune systems.

Selective school dismissals may be considered by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the Chief Education Officer (CEdO) based on the population of an individual school or evidence of increased influenza severity.