



EAST ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mr. Roger A. D'Emidio

Superintendent of Schools

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September 24, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This is a follow up to the letter dated September 8, 2009. We want to reassure you that we are following the guidelines the Allegheny County Health Department has advised all school districts to implement, which is the following:

- **Teach your children to wash their hands** often with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub. You can set a good example by doing this yourself.
- **Teach your children not to share personal items** like drinks, food or unwashed utensils and to cover their coughs and sneezes with tissues. They should cover up their coughs or sneezes using the elbow or sleeve instead of the hand when a tissue is unavailable.
- **Know the signs and symptoms of the flu.** Symptoms of the flu include a fever (100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater), cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, and feeling very tired. Some people may also vomit or have diarrhea.
- **Keep sick children at home for at least 24 hours AFTER they no longer have fever or do not have signs of fever, without using fever-reducing drugs.** Keeping children with a fever at home will reduce the number of people who may get infected.
- **DO NOT SEND CHILDREN TO SCHOOL IF THEY ARE SICK. Any children who are determined to be sick while at school will be sent home. If your child was sent home the day before and you send your child to school, please know that your child will be sent back home immediately.**

We have been told that there are one or two confirmed cases of H1N1 in the District, but this information has been passed to our school nurses from the parents. We have not received confirmation from any doctor or doctor's office relative to any H1N1 cases. In all cases, the students were kept at home until they were fever-free for 24 hours. Additionally, in all cases, when we have had a child or an employee sick at school, he/she has been sent home and have followed the 24-hour fever-free rule. **As a reminder, if your child has symptoms or is sick, please keep them home from school.**

We are doing everything possible that the County has told us to do and we have been fortunate that we have not had a lot of absenteeism during this period.

Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter and I appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roger A. D'Emidio".

Roger A. D'Emidio
Superintendent

RAD/lrs