

Detroit Lakes Public Schools

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August 19, 2009

Dear Parent or Guardian,

At the end of the 2008-09 school year, the country's attention was focused on the H1N1 flu outbreak. At that time, a number of schools closed as a result of a single confirmed or unconfirmed case of the flu.

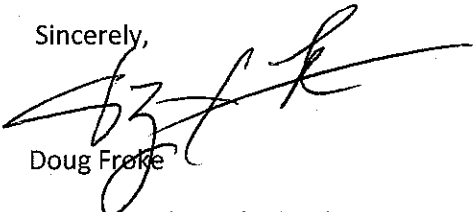
Beginning this fall, the Detroit Lakes School District will respond to concerns regarding the H1N1 flu consistent with the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control (CDC). The recommendations that will be followed by the Detroit Lakes School District are as follows:

1. The importance of hand-washing as well as other hygiene practices will be re-emphasized. Please communicate the importance of such measures with your child. Parents may also want to purchase hand sanitizer for their child's backpack as part of the back to school supplies to use throughout the school day.
2. We ask that students who are ill – especially those with significant fevers (over 100°F) - stay home from school.
3. Students with confirmed cases of H1N1 will be asked to remain home until at least 24 hours after their fever subsides, or following their doctor's advice.
4. School closing will not take place as a result of an H1N1 outbreak unless the CDC changes its recommendation. It is our understanding that earlier recommendations to close schools were based upon a lack of complete knowledge about the H1N1 virus. In the event H1N1 flu becomes a more significant concern, the CDC will then issue new recommendations and we would then act accordingly.
5. Look for further information once school starts from our school nurse regarding further measures that the district will enact to ensure your child's health and safety during this onset of the new school year.

We will be working closely with City, County, and State officials to provide further information on the status of the H1N1 virus, seasonal virus or any other flu strain that may permeate our schools. We are also awaiting information on the availability of flu vaccinations that may arrive sometime in October. We are not yet sure whether it will also be able to include vaccinations for H1N1.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We continue to work hard to ensure that your child's health and safety remain a top priority for the district. As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Doug Froke

Superintendent of Schools