

River Edge Elementary Schools

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“Build Bright Futures Together”

*Erika H. Steinbauer
Superintendent of Schools*

*Deborah A. Trainor
Board Secretary/Business Administrator*

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I am sure you are following the continuing news reports on the increasing number of cases of Influenza A and H1N1 virus. Our school district has received regular updates from the Bergen County Department of Health, the New Jersey Department of Education, and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

To date, we have confirmed reports of one student at Cherry Hill School with Type A flu, which may be swine flu or may be regular seasonal flu. The symptoms of H1N1 influenza are similar to symptoms of common seasonal flu and include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headaches, chills, and fatigue. Diarrhea and vomiting may also be associated with the H1N1 influenza.

I am asking for the cooperation of our parents and guardians during the outbreak of this virus. In accordance with the CDC guidelines, any student who has been diagnosed with influenza is required to stay home for seven (7) days and only return with a physician's written clearance.

If a parent or guardian observes any flu-like symptoms in their child, please keep the child home from school and call your doctor. If your child is immune-compromised, please direct any questions to your healthcare provider. Since we have not identified any clustering in the spreading of this flu, we have no intention of closing school at this time.

We are putting additional efforts into our daily maintenance and cleaning operations at our schools by washing down all critical surfaces and giving extra attention to common areas, such as doorknobs and railings, on a regular basis. We have, however, notified the Board of Health as a precaution.

Please also remind your children of the following steps that prevent the transmission of infections such as influenza:

- Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Wash hands frequently, especially after coughing or sneezing
- Stay home if you are sick, especially with a fever

Stay informed by checking the various websites regarding the H1N1 influenza, such as www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/, www.nj.gov/health, or www.riveredgeschools.org for additional information.

Sincerely,

Erika Steinbauer
Superintendent of Schools