



Alamo Heights Independent School District

7101 Broadway • San Antonio, Texas 78209 • Phone 210-824-2483

September 28, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am sending this letter to inform you of some steps we are taking to protect our students and staff from the H1N1 influenza (swine flu). As we have communicated previously, we have partnered with the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) to take all recommended precautionary measures on campuses related to the H1N1 influenza.

In addition to these precautionary measures, AHISD is planning to offer free H1N1 immunizations to all students and staff at their current campus. Although we do not know the specific date for delivery, we anticipate this will occur sometime by early November. According to Metro Health, this effort “will greatly enhance the success of our community-wide effort to control H1N1.”

Participation in the school immunization program will strictly be at the discretion of parents. Only those students who have a signed parent consent form will receive the immunization. We will send out further information about the immunizations, including consent forms, when they are available.

Our district’s team of nurses is working diligently to plan for this opportunity, but we are in need of trained health care providers to volunteer their time. If you are a trained health care provider who can assist us with these efforts, please call Bettye Gibson, Coordinator of Health Services, at 832-5756.

Both the CDC and Metro Health have informed us that they expect most schools will have students who get the flu. People ages 5-24 are among the most susceptible to the H1N1 virus. A letter from Metro Health issued to San Antonio schools pertaining to the H1N1 virus is also posted on our website. As noted in the letter, and as a matter of public health policy, there will no longer be tracking of individual cases of the virus as it is now widespread. (Metro Health is also not providing notifications of H1N1 cases to school districts.) As a school district, we know students have had the flu, but we have not seen a large drop in school attendance at this time.

We continue to urge AHISD families to follow standard precautionary measures including: coughing or sneezing into a tissue or shirt sleeve, frequently washing hands, and keeping sick children at home for 24 hours after they have no signs of fever to avoid the spreading of illness. Should you have questions about your child’s health, please contact your campus nurse or the Metro Health Flu Hotline at 210-207-5779.

Thank you for your continued partnership as we address this community health issue.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kevin Brown
Superintendent of Schools