

NIPPERSINK SCHOOL DISTRICT 2

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October 20, 2009

Dear D2/D157 Parents,

The H1N1 vaccine will be available to McHenry County soon. Centegra Health Systems, in cooperation with the McHenry County Department of Health, will be conducting school vaccination clinics throughout the county. You will be notified of this voluntary, student vaccination opportunity, once we receive further details.

It is our understanding that a \$15 fee will be assessed for vaccine administration. However, participation will not be denied based on the inability to pay. The vaccine will be in "shot form" only. Students nine years and younger will require a second dose to be scheduled at a later date. The "nasal mist" will not be available at the school-based clinics. A school permission form and a Centegra consent form will be required for student participation.

Again, we will share more details as we receive them.

We do encourage you to seek this vaccination earlier, if you choose to participate, and it becomes available to you through your physicians, health clinics, or other sources.

Please continue to monitor the districts' websites for H1N1 information and updates.

H1N1 Influenza, also referred to as Swine Flu, presents symptoms such as fever accompanied by a cough or sore throat.

The Center for Disease Control recommends people with flu-like symptoms to stay home or isolated until they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.

School dismissal is not advised for a suspected or confirmed case of novel influenza A (H1N1) and, in general, is not advised unless there is a magnitude of staff or student absenteeism that interferes with the school's ability to function.

Students, faculty or staff with influenza-like illness should keep away from others as much as possible, stay home, and not attend school for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone.

Please refer to medical management for further guidance.

H1N1 information and updates are posted at:

<http://www.co.mchenry.il.us/departments/health/Pages/MCDHindex.aspx>

<http://cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>

Our schools will continue to promote ways to reduce the spread of influenza, including hygiene and cough etiquette. We will continue to provide professional surveillance of influenza activity and continue our communications with MCDH.

If you have additional questions or desire more information, please refer to the websites listed above and the school districts' websites, or contact your child's school nurse.

Thank you for your continued assistance and cooperation in monitoring and addressing the health of our students.

Sincerely,

Dan Oest, Superintendent