



Jefferson Union High School District

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES – SERRAMONTE DEL REY

699 Serramonte Boulevard, Suite 100
Daly City, California 94015-4132
(650) 550-7900 • FAX (650) 550-7888

Board of Trustees

Maria S. Luna
Jeanne L. Matysiak
David K. Mineta
Thomas A. Nuris
Katherine C. Zarate

Michael J. Crilly
Superintendent

September 2, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The National Center for Disease Control and Prevention has alerted all schools to the likelihood of increased cases of influenza in the fall and into the winter. Of course, the major concern is the H1N1 (Swine Flu) virus and prevention strategies to decrease the likely spread of this virus. I would like to make you aware of the instructions we have provided to our schools and also provide some precautions that you as parents and guardians can practice to insure the least possible impact to your family and our schools.

In addition to working with our staff, the Jefferson Union High School District is also working with the San Mateo County Office of Education and the San Mateo County Health Department to coordinate plans and monitor any outbreaks of the flu.

We have asked our students and staff alike to practice hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette. Specifically, hand hygiene means washing hands frequently with soap and water or hand sanitizers. It is recommended that hand washing continue for 20 seconds to be effective. Respiratory etiquette requires all to cover noses and mouths with a tissue when coughing or sneezing (student or adult should use a shirt sleeve or elbow if no tissue is available). We have provided these products liberally throughout our schools.

We have asked our staff to be alert to students who may be experiencing flu symptoms. If a student is exhibiting flu symptoms, they will be asked to go to the health office to be assessed. They will be sent home if necessary. As a precaution, and in accordance with the National Center for Disease Control and Prevention, such students will be isolated and asked to wear a mask until they can be picked up by a parent. Parents can help by keeping students home who are experiencing flu symptoms. Please do not send students who are sick to school.

We are asking that any student who is sick stay home. The National Center for Disease Control and Prevention advises that students should stay home until at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever or signs of a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medicines. We are asking your cooperation in order to keep all of our students and staff safe.

All parents of high risk students (asthma, diabetes, compromised immune system systems, pregnant or have neuromuscular diseases, etc.) should check with their health care provider as to any special precautions that should be taken before an outbreak. We are advised that these students are at greater risk for problems related to the flu.

School will continue to be open even through some students or staff become ill. Unlike the experience of last spring with the initial cases of Swine Flu, the National Center for Disease Control and Prevention no longer advises that school be closed. Any situation in our district will be monitored carefully. School could, however, be closed upon the advice or mandate of the San Mateo County Health Department. We will endeavor to be in close contact with you, our parents and guardians, if conditions arise which would necessitate such a closure.

Lastly, we are making plans to continue school even in the event of massive school absences. While safety is a priority, the education of your son and daughter is our responsibility. We will use creative approaches including the use of the internet and local technology to continue assignments and school work, should true pandemic materialize.

Once again, we can minimize the impact of the flu if we follow the basic precautions: washing hands often, covering for sneezes and coughs, and above all remaining home when sick. We ask that you support our schools' efforts to keep all safe and the impacts of this flu to a minimum.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Crilly
Superintendent