



# North Shore School District 112

## Oak Terrace School • 240 Prairie Avenue

### Highwood, Illinois 60040

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[www.nssd112.org/oakterrace](http://www.nssd112.org/oakterrace)

May 7, 2009

Dear Members of the District 112 School Community,

This is to inform you that a case of H1N1 Type A flu (swine flu) has been confirmed at Oak Terrace School. In accordance with the Center for Disease Control (CDC), we are taking the necessary precautions and have been in contact with health professionals and the Lake County Health Department. At this time, we are not closing Oak Terrace School or any other attendance centers in District 112. As a precautionary measure, our Buildings and Grounds Department will provide additional cleaning throughout the school. School will be in session as usual, and we are advised that all school activities should continue on their normal basis. At this time, school closure is not advised by CDC for a suspected or confirmed case of influenza A (H1N1) and, in general, is not advised unless there is a magnitude of faculty or student absenteeism that interferes with the school's ability to function. At this time, we are not experiencing a high level of absenteeism in any of our schools. At this time, CDC recommends the primary means to reduce the spread of influenza in schools is to focus on early identification of ill students and staff, staying home when ill, and good cough and hand hygiene etiquette.

Students, faculty or staff with influenza-like illness (fever with a cough or sore throat) should not attend school or go into the community except to seek medical care for at least seven (7) days, even if symptoms resolve sooner. Students, faculty and staff who remain ill past 7 days should continue to stay home from school until at least 24 hours after symptoms have resolved.

Parents and guardians should monitor their school-aged children, and faculty and staff should self-monitor every morning for symptoms of influenza-like illness. As well, ill students should not report to child care settings or congregate in settings that bring a group of people together.

Students, faculty and staff should stringently follow sanitary measures to reduce the spread of influenza, including covering their nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing (or coughing or sneezing into their sleeve if a tissue isn't available) and frequently washing hands with soap and water.

Please be aware that any student or staff member who, upon arrival to school or during the school day, appear to have an influenza-like illness will be isolated promptly in a room separate from others and sent home. We will make every effort to treat all illnesses in a confidential manner and appreciate your prompt response in the event it is necessary to contact you regarding your child becoming ill.

As we believe that school administrators should communicate regularly with local public health officials to obtain guidance about reporting of influenza-like illnesses in the schools, we are continuing to update the links on our district webpage. Please refer to the district website, [www.nssd112.org](http://www.nssd112.org) for the most recent information on influenza. The Lake County Department of Public Health anticipates an increase in mild cases of influenza, and we will continue to maintain contact with them and monitor the situation closely.

Should you have any additional questions, please contact the nurse at your child's school.

Regards,

Maureen L. Hager, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

#### OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

Sandy Anderson  
*Principal*

Maria Waskin  
*Associate Principal*