

Olmsted Falls City School District

Olmsted Falls Intermediate School

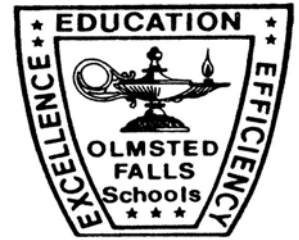
DONALD R. SVEC
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October 19, 2009

Dear Intermediate School Parents:

Today, more than 100 students were absent from Olmsted Falls Intermediate School due to various illnesses. While this is a large number of absent students, it does not exceed the County's current average absentee rate of 18%. We have learned that one of these students has been diagnosed with Type A influenza. Type A influenza includes several varieties of flu; H1N1 is only one of several types of Type A influenza. We have been notified by this student's parent that, while **this is not a confirmed case of H1N1**, the child's doctor plans to treat it as such.

Cases of Type A influenza, the type that includes H1N1 influenza among other varieties, have been confirmed throughout Cuyahoga County. Local media outlets have reported confirmed cases of H1N1 in surrounding school districts. Residents and staff members should assume that the H1N1 virus is present in the community, and not confined to any one school, neighborhood, or age group. The Olmsted Falls School District is monitoring our student population district-wide and following the guidance of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Ohio Department of Health. **School closure is not recommended at this time.**

It is recommended, however, that everyone continue to practice good health habits such as washing hands often, not sharing food, drinks, or utensils, covering coughs and sneezes, and refraining from or minimizing direct personal contact to reduce the spread of any illness, including the flu.

We strongly encourage parents to keep children home if any flu-like symptoms become apparent. Students should not return to school until they have been completely free of fever for at least 24 hours. For additional information on influenza and prevention, please visit www.flu.gov.

We will continue to keep you informed with any change in status of this situation and will provide information on our District's website at www.ofcs.net. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Donald R. Svec
Principal