

June 4, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

In our effort to keep the community informed regarding the H1N1 influenza conditions at Morris County School of Technology, please be advised that there are a number of students at Morris County School of Technology currently home recuperating with influenza-like illness (ILI).

Our nurse continues to work with the Denville Division of Health to report any new cases of ILI and to monitor the health of the children currently at home. We expect to have additional cases periodically throughout the rest of the year and will continue to work with county and local health officials to stay informed of current best practices and procedures for controlling the spread of this disease.

Our school administration continues to work closely with our local health departments to monitor for new cases. As a precaution, our school will be implementing infection control procedures recommended by our county and local health officials.

Students and staff with influenza-like illness (fever with cough and/or sore throat) must stay home and not report to school. Parents/staff should report any of these symptoms when reporting absence. Our local health department will be contacting staff and/or parents of students with flu like illness to collect additional information. Students/staff with influenza-like illness should **remain home for at least 7 days** after illness onset, or 24 hours after all symptoms disappear, **whichever is longer**.

The school's custodial staff will conduct daily cleaning of high touch surfaces such as desktops, banisters and door handles.

Good hygiene practices both at home and school will help reduce the risk of infection:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze; put the used tissue in a waste basket and wash your hands.
- Wash your hands after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.
- Use soap and water and wash your hands for 20 seconds; or  
Use an alcohol-based gel hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) or alcohol-based hand wipes; rub these on the hands until the liquid or gel dries.

Your cooperation is important to the success of these measures. Please keep your children **at home** if they are ill and report all symptoms of illness when reporting an absence.

For the most current information visit the Morris County Office of Health Management website at [www.morrishealth.org](http://www.morrishealth.org) or the Centers for Disease Control website at [www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu).

Please contact the School Nurse at 973-627-4600 X241 or the Denville Division of Health at 973-625-8300 X261 if you have any questions.

We appreciate your cooperation in complying with these guidelines.

Very truly yours,

Patrick J. Pelosi, Ed.D.  
Interim Superintendent of Schools

