



AVON GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT



375 S. JENNERVILLE ROAD • WEST GROVE, PENNSYLVANIA 19390

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Superintendent

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Dear Engle Middle School Parent/Guardian:

Please be advised that on June 23 the Avon Grove School District received confirmation via a hospital laboratory report that a Fred S. Engle Middle School student was diagnosed as positive for the Influenza A antigen on June 16. There are three subtypes of Influenza A (H1N1, H1N2 and H3N2) that can affect humans. The test results do not confirm whether this is a case of the novel Influenza A (H1N1) virus commonly known as swine flu.

The symptoms of the novel Influenza A (H1N1) flu in people are similar to the symptoms of regular human flu and include fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people have reported diarrhea and vomiting.

If your child exhibits flu-like symptoms, please contact your health care provider. As a reminder, everyday steps to protect you and your child's health include covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue whenever possible and throwing tissues away once used. Children can also cover a cough or sneeze with the bend of their elbow if necessary. Children and parents should wash hands often with warm water and soap, especially after coughing or sneezing. Use a 60 percent alcohol-based hand gel when soap and water are not available. Parents should also remind children to keep their hands away from their eyes, nose and mouth.

Avon Grove School District officials will continue to monitor this issue along with county and state health officials. We appreciate parents helping to keep us informed, and we ask that parents contact their child's school principal to report any confirmed cases of Influenza A among students. We will share any updates as necessary.

For more information regarding the novel Influenza A (H1N1) virus, please visit the following Web sites: www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/index.htm, www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/recommendations.htm, www.avongrove.org, or <http://www.dsf.health.state.pa.us/health/cwp/view.asp?q=252990>.

Sincerely,

Augustus J. Massaro, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools