



INDIAN PRAIRIE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of Communication Services

Flu Update

October 13, 2009

District 204 is working closely with the DuPage and Will County Health Departments to help reduce the spread of influenza in students and staff in our schools during this flu season.

We anticipate that absenteeism rates due to influenza-like illness will fluctuate throughout the school year. At this time, the district is experiencing less than 1 percent absenteeism on average across the district due to influenza-like illness.

We continue to track the situation closely and report our absenteeism data to the county health department on a daily basis. We are taking all of the recommended steps to both prevent and monitor flu conditions and will use that data in collaboration with the county health department to make the best decisions concerning the health of our school community.

The district has the following precautionary procedures in place to help prevent the spread of the flu:

- Reinforcing the need for students and staff to practice good respiratory hygiene
- Instruction on proper hand washing
- Continued regular cleaning of high touch areas
- Placing hand sanitizers in classrooms, lunchrooms, and main offices as a back-up to hand washing
- Reminders for students and staff who are feeling ill to stay home until they are fever free for at least 24 hours without fever reducing medicine and seek medical attention when necessary

The district follows Illinois Department of Public Health Regulations and works together with the county health departments to monitor the health and safety of our students. When the absentee rate at a school reaches 10 percent of students with influenza-like illness (which can be typical during the regular flu season), the county health department advises school districts to inform parents. The district does not typically inform parents of an individual case of a communicable illness unless directed by the county health department.

Thank you for your continued co-operation in reporting absences due to flu-like illnesses to the schools. We appreciate your partnership in supporting the good health of your children and our community.

Resources for parents related to this year's flu season are located on the district's website at <http://ipsdweb.ipisd.org/Subpage.aspx/Flu>

P R E P A R I N G A L L S T U D E N T S T O S U C C E E D

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