

# DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*Office of the General Superintendent*

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Dear Students and Parents:

Detroit Public Schools is working to keep you updated on the current swine flu situation as it may affect DPS. We have been working with the Detroit Department of Health and Wellness Promotion (DHWP) to prepare for a possible flu pandemic for some time now. Keep in mind being prepared is one of the best prevention techniques to protect your family. It is essential to prepare at home, in your community, at work and at your school.

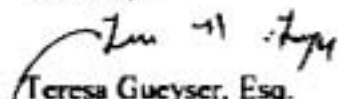
The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Michigan Department of Community Health, the Wayne County Department of Health and our local Department of Health and Wellness Promotion all agree that at this time, personal hygiene is still the best method to prevent illness. The following are recommendations from the CDC to be practiced:

- **Wash your hands often with soap and water.** (We are making sure that soap is available in all schools.)
- **Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing or cough or sneeze into your upper arm sleeve** – not your hands.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.**
- **Dispose of dirty tissues promptly and carefully.**
- **Avoid sharing cups or glasses.**
- **Keep children home when they are sick to prevent the spread of illness.**
- **School personnel who are sick with flu-like symptoms should stay home.**

As always, if your child is exhibiting flu-like symptoms that include **fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue, keep your child home** and consult your doctor. When your child is sick enough to stay at home with a flu-like illness, this illness should be reported immediately to the school. We (DPS) are required to report communicable diseases to our local health department. Reporting cases will assist with monitoring illness trends in our community.

Our goal is to keep our students healthy because we know that healthy students are better learners. Further questions can be directed to your local school administrator or you may contact Anntinette McCain, RN in the Office of Health and Physical Education at (313) 873-7735. Additional information may be obtained from the DHWP information hotline at 800-879-7979.

Sincerely,



Teresa Gueyser, Esq.  
Acting General Superintendent