



## KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

**350 KELLER PARKWAY  
KELLER, TEXAS 76248  
PHONE: 817-744-1000**

September 18, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian,

At Keller ISD, creating and maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment for your student is one of our top priorities. We realize concerns remain about the presence of the H1N1 Influenza virus, especially in environments such as school campuses. At KISD, we are receiving confirmation of positive cases of Influenza Type A on most of our campuses. Though Influenza Type A may not be H1N1, most of the recently reported cases are assumed to be so.

Keller ISD is continuing to take steps to reduce the spread of any illness, but at the same time, we need your continued assistance. The district will no longer continue the practice of distributing a letter to parents each time a new case of Influenza Type A is confirmed. Rather, let this letter serve as your notice that we have flu cases in most of our schools.

It is important that you closely monitor your child's health and vital that you keep him/her home from school should they exhibit any flu-like symptoms. Symptoms of H1N1 include temperature, cough, upper respiratory infection, sore throat, muscle aches, headaches and in some cases, upset stomach, vomiting and diarrhea. We are asking any students and staff experiencing two or more of these symptoms to seek immediate care by a physician and report the illness or symptoms to the school nurse.

Keller ISD currently is recommending the following procedures:

- Students and staff with a temperature of 100 degrees or greater are asked to stay home for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever – or signs of a fever – without the use of fever-reducing medication. These individuals should stay home even if they are using antiviral medications.
- Students and staff with ill household members should stay home for five days from the day the first household member got sick. This is the time they are most likely to become sick themselves.

The district will continue to follow the following actions:

- Students with a temperature of 100 degrees or greater will be sent home. Please be prepared to pick up your child immediately should he/she come down with flu-like symptoms while at school.
- Personal protective equipment, such as masks, will be available and worn by school nurses and other staff when caring for students with a flu-like illness.
- Encouraging the following prevention measures: frequent hand-washing, covering nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, or if a tissue is not available, coughing/sneezing into your shirt sleeve or elbow.
- Cleaning crews will continue to give special attention to all touch surfaces at campuses and on buses.

We appreciate your continued support and assistance, and would ask for your help in the following ways:

- Do not send your child to school if he/she is sick. Absences due to flu illness are recognized and will be considered as such by campus attendance committees should violations of the 90 percent rule occur.
- Teach your children to wash their hands with soap and water.
- Plan for childcare at home if your child gets sick or in the event that school is dismissed.
- Plan to monitor the health of the sick child and any other children by checking for fever and other symptoms of the flu.
- Update your emergency contact information at the school.

- Identify a separate room in the house for care of sick family members.
- Consider getting your family vaccinated for seasonal flu and 2009 H1N1 vaccine when available.

Though there will no longer be letters sent home for each individual positive case of Influenza Type A, Keller ISD will continue to utilize parent and staff notification tools to communicate any major developments or changes to our campuses' prevention strategies. These outlets include [www.KellerISD.net](http://www.KellerISD.net), campus Web sites, local media, Twitter and E-News. If you are not subscribed to the district's weekly E-News bulletin, you can do so by clicking the link at the bottom of KellerISD.net.

For additional information and any updates, click on "H1N1 Flu Info" under Hot Topics on the front page of KellerISD.net. You can also visit the KISD Health Services Web page, [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov), [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov), or [www.Texasflu.org](http://www.Texasflu.org) which allows you to monitor H1N1 activity in your community. You can also consult your personal physician if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James R. Veitenheimer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a distinct "V".

Dr. James R. Veitenheimer  
Keller ISD Superintendent