

**MESSAGE SENT ON BEHALF OF THE
PANDEMIC RESPONSE TEAM**

H1N1 Virus Update # 6

June 15, 2009

Since April 28, the District has sent five messages to alert you to the **latest information** about the **H1N1 influenza virus**. As we begin classes for the summer term, here is the latest update.

- As of today, our District has no new illnesses that warrant investigation and no notice from County Health of any confirmed cases in our population. We are continuing to vigilantly monitor our community to ensure that illness is identified, minimizing the risk that the flu will spread here.
- On June 11, 2009, Dr. Margaret Chan, Director General of the World Health Organization, raised the world influenza response to the highest level, a Phase 6 pandemic influenza alert. There are now over 30,000 confirmed cases of the H1N1 or swine flu. The disease is now worldwide and warrants extra-ordinary cooperation in stemming its expansion.

The pandemic alert level affects national responses. Worldwide countermeasures, such as vaccine production and distribution, are in effect. Nationally, based upon CDC statistics this week, California has the 4th highest number of confirmed cases. There have been three deaths here partly blamed on H1N1.

The disease is still considered mild, not as lethal as other pandemics such as the 1918 illness that killed millions. Very few deaths have been documented, despite the rapid spread of the disease, and few cases have been treated in hospitals.

Dr. Chan has asked health authorities worldwide to remain vigilant and to continue to track and share information about this illness noting that we need to be prepared if mortality data show that the strain has mutated and has become more deadly.

There have been no border closures or restrictions on travel and none are recommended.

We will continue to advise you of any new developments and ask that you:

Be alert for signs of flu, and report to Health Services or your own health provider if you are ill.

If you are sick, stay home until you know you are not contagious. You may be required to present a note that you may resume activity.

Practice good hygiene. Watch for campus sanitation stations to be installed in the near

future, and remember to use them. Wash your hands often with soap and water.

Thank you for your cooperation.