



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATIONAL ITEM

TOPIC: Plan of Action for Flu Season

SUBMITTED BY: Irene Rosales RN,BSN

OF: Student Services

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

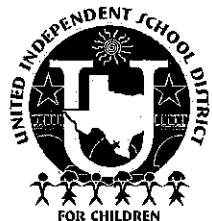
DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: September 16, 2009

INFORMATIONAL REPORT:

Enclosed is the Communicable Disease Outbreak Response Plan for United I.S.D.

UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear UISD Parent/Guardian:

As you already know, there continues to be concern and talk in the news media about the N1H1 flu. At United ISD our priority is to ensure the safety and well-being of our students and staff. We continue to work with The City of Laredo Health Department to plan for contingencies if the flu does become widespread in our community. With our plan we will continue to balance health and safety requirements as well as the educational and social needs of our students and families.

The District has taken several steps to reduce the spread of any respiratory illness:

- Campuses have been stocked with additional soap to enable children and adults to wash their hands frequently throughout the school day;
- Students have been instructed to cough or sneeze in the crook of their elbow or into a tissue. Students have also been instructed to properly dispose of used tissues;
- District staff are disinfecting campus facilities and school buses daily;
- The District has ordered hand sanitizer to be placed in all classrooms;
- District staff members are closely monitoring students who exhibit symptoms and referring them to health care agencies/providers.

You can help us in preventing the spread of H1N1 or other viruses by reminding your child (ren) of the following health and hygiene measures:

- Teach your children to wash their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, have them use a hand sanitizer to clean their hands.
- Teach your children to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or by coughing into the inside of the elbow.
- Teach your children to stay at least six feet away from people who are sick.
- Check your children for symptoms of influenza (primarily fever with either a cough or a sore throat);
- Keep sick child(ren) at home. Do not send them to school or childcare. No one should return to school until they have had no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine, even if they feel better.

We will certainly keep our website, www.uisd.net, current with new information and communicate with you about any health issues that can impact your children as it becomes available to UISD. You may also obtain additional information concerning the H1N1 virus at www.flu.gov.

We appreciate your time and attention to this important concern. Please be assured that the District will continue to make efforts to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 473-6264 or your child's campus.

Best regards,

Roberto J. Santos

Roberto J. Santos

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United ISD

Communicable Disease Outbreak Response Plan

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Levels are defined by the presence of a Communicable Disease Outbreak within the school locality:	Communication (Outbreak information from central office administration only)	Campus access	Educational Delivery	Extra-curricular programs	Community Gatherings/ Events/ Field Trips/Travel	Personnel	Nurse Clinic	Transportation	Food Services	Custodians
Level 1 – Schools remain open	-Disseminate Information in reference to proper hygiene -Send parent letter # 1 (Prevention letter)	Not Restricted	-Regular school program -Hygiene, hand washing, cough/ sneeze etiquette will be reinforced & ongoing. -Nursing staff logs total number of flu cases on log form daily	Not Restricted	Not Restricted	Normal working conditions. Staff will refer all ill students and staff that exhibit any signs and symptoms of illness to nursing staff at each campus.	Students and staff will be sent to See health care provider if temperature > 100.4 -Encourage Flu vaccine. Encourage good hygiene & hand washing. In-service staff on flu or communicable disease prevention -Weekly surveillance & reporting Schedule Influenza immunization clinics @ campus for students, staff & community	-All bus routes run as usual and continue with daily sanitation.	-Normal Operation Review food handling procedure with staff	-Continue Cleaning & Disinfecting as preventive measures.
Level 2 Schools remain open	-Send parent letter # 2 Disseminate updated information regarding communicable disease as communicated by the CDC and the Health Department.	Not Restricted	-Regular school program- Nursing staff logs total number of flu cases on log form daily Continue preventive Hygiene Practices.	Not Restricted	Not Restricted	Normal working conditions for staff. Continue referring students and staff exhibiting symptoms to nurse.	-Isolate & send home all temperatures > 100.4 -Encourage Flu vaccines -Emphasize good hygiene & hand washing -Continue surveillance & reporting	--All bus routes run as usual and continue with daily sanitation.	-Normal Operation -Emphasize proper food handling procedures with staff	-Continue Cleaning & Disinfecting as preventive measure
Level 3 - Increase of ill students - Attendance at schools will be monitored to report appropriate waivers to TEA	-Send parent Letter #3 (Expanded outbreak) depending on direction of our district and local government. -Updates to faculty and community will continue. -Classroom instruction to explain situation and to emphasize proper hygiene will be implemented.	Not Restricted	-All students exit campus at end of instructional day. Nursing staff logs total number of flu cases on log form daily	-Extra-curricular programs will be reviewed	-All special events, field trips, travel etc. will be monitored and reviewed.	-All staff report to work after assessing temperature at home. Including custodians and central kitchen staff Administration to meet to determine how best to continue school operations. -Any student or employee exhibiting illness must be assessed by nurse.	-Isolate & send home all temperatures > 100.4. If possible, do not send student home via bus with temperature > 100.4 or if exhibiting sign and symptoms of flu illness. -Nurse and sick students wear face mask while in clinic -Clear all students & staff returning to school after illness. -Continue surveillance & reporting	-All bus routes run as usual. -If possible alternate transportation arrangement made for any bus student with a temperature > 100.4 or exhibits signs or symptoms of flu illness. - Continue disinfecting buses daily	-Prepare sack lunches to reduce transmission of illness. -Students will eat their sack lunches in the classroom -Continue emphasizing proper food handling with staff and hand washing	Continue Cleaning & Disinfecting as preventive measure

Communicable Disease Outbreak Response Plan

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Level 4 - Spread of pandemic within the school and community. - Local government may recommend schools to close	-Continue Level 3 if schools remain open. At the recommendation of the district and local government send parent letter #4 if there is a (School closure) or appropriate applicable parent letter. -Daily updates on outbreak via news media, UISD website and Health Department.	-Continue Level 3 if schools remain open. Classes may be cancelled district wide. -School facility may be closed to all but essential personnel for an indeterminate period of time. -School may be quarantine, no visitors.	-Continue Level 3 if schools remain open.	-Continue Level 3 if schools remain open. All extracurricular activities may be cancelled	-Continue Level 3 if schools remain open -School facilities may be closed -Await direction from district and local government regarding the use of school facilities for community need.	-Continue Level 3 if schools remain open. Administration reviews process of school closure.	-Continue Level 3 if schools remain open. -School facility may be closed.	-Continue Level 3 if schools remain open. -School facility may be closed Continue to disinfect all buses.	-Continue Level 3 if schools remain open -School facility may be closed	-Continue Level 3 if schools remain open. -Continue to Level 3 if schools remain open.	-Continue Level 3 if schools remain open. -Continue to Level 3 if schools remain open.	-Continue Level 3 if schools remain open. -Continue to Level 3 if schools remain open.
Level 5 (Recovery Period) - Spread of disease has diminished. - Local government directs schools to reopen	-At the direction of the local government send parent letter #5 (Schools re-open)	Resume to level 2 until recovery is complete										

(SEE LEVEL TWO)