

Hello. This is the Lakewood City Schools with an important message about the H1N1 flu virus. As you are probably aware, the H1N1 flu is now prevalent throughout Northeast Ohio school districts, including Lakewood. The virus is so common that the government is no longer requiring testing to confirm cases unless someone is hospitalized. The spread of the virus is the same as the seasonal flu. We are asking parents to help in the effort to minimize the spread by talking with your children about the following Cuyahoga County Board of Health recommendations:

- Wash hands frequently
- Cover your nose and mouths when coughing or sneezing with a tissue or by using your sleeve or elbow
- Stay home when sick and don't return to school for at least 24 hours of being fever-free without the use of medication
- Get vaccinated

In addition, the school district is following recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control to decrease the spread in our buildings by doing daily cleanings of areas and equipment frequently touched by students and staff, encouraging students to wash hands often, installing hand sanitizers in the cafeterias, supplying masks for those who are ill and those who are treating them and isolating ill students and staff until they can be sent home.

The Board of Health advises us that we should anticipate further cases of H1N1, however, we will not be sending any notifications of these cases unless the Board of Health advises us differently. For the most up-to-date information on H1N1, please refer to the district website at www.lakewoodcityschools.org.

Thank you, and be assured that the health and well being of our students is the district's top priority.