

Influenza Update: October 1, 2009

The Flu Season Has Arrived!

A number of students and staff have reported flu-like symptoms. In most cases this has required a stay at home until the fever has been gone for 24 hours without any fever reducer medication.

The school district staff, including administrators, support staff, especially the health services departments led by the school nurses are monitoring the progress of the influenza outbreak in the Mankato Public Schools. School district custodial staff are giving special attention to cleaning and disinfecting the schools. We are in contact with the Minnesota Department of Health, Minnesota Department of Education Blue Earth and Nicollet Counties to share information.

Prevention is key!

- ∞ Wash your hands thoroughly and often with warm water and soap.
- ∞ Using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer is also effective.
- ∞ Cover your cough, by coughing into a tissue or your sleeve.
- ∞ If you are sick, stay home
- ∞ If your child is sick, keep them home specifically from school and daycare.

If your child has the following symptoms:

Fever, cough, sore throat, muscles aches, or fatigue and sometimes vomiting and diarrhea they should remain home. If needed contact your health care provider.

Additional Information

Additional information is available at the individual school website and the school district website (<http://www.isd77.org>). There will be a link posted to the Minnesota Department of Health for more detailed information.

***If your child's school reaches the 25% or more absenteeism level, parent/s will be notified via school communication**