



Peterborough Victoria
Northumberland and Clarington
Catholic District School Board

PETER L. ROACH
CATHOLIC
EDUCATION
CENTRE

October 27, 2009

To All Parents/Guardians and Staff:

We felt it important to provide you with an update on the presence of Influenza-Like Illnesses within our communities.

In cooperation with our local health units, we would like to confirm for you that, along with increased incidences of illness within our communities, we have experienced increased student absences. Not unexpectedly, some of these absences may be the result of the H1N1 influenza virus or other respiratory illnesses.

We continue to monitor our student absence rates. As required by provincial guidelines, we have informed our local health authorities where a school may have more than 10% of its students absent on any one day.

We would like you to know that we have, and we expect to continue to have, varying numbers of students absent due to influenza related illnesses.

We continue to work cooperatively with our health units on preventative measures. We want to reassure you that:

- We are ready to take whatever action health authorities recommend. At this time, they have given no additional directions regarding the operation of our schools. Normal school days and activities are in effect.
- We are encouraging everyone to wash hands well and often with soap and water, and use “cover your cough” techniques. This includes coughing into your sleeve or arm. Also, please remind your children not to share personal items such as drinks, food or utensils.

As always, we are asking students and staff who are ill to remain at home until they are feeling better.

Our school support staff provide very thorough and effective cleaning and disinfecting of schools as part of their routine duties. As part of our response to the current situation, our custodial staff are implementing increased sanitization and disinfection measures.

Student and staff health and wellness is our first priority. We will also provide any further information or instruction we may be given by local Health Units, as we continue to work in cooperation with them.

For further information on H1N1 Influenza A:

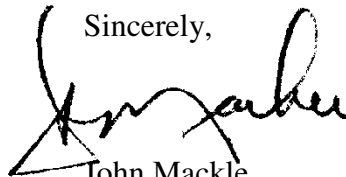
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit
www.hkpr.on.ca / 1-866-888-4577

Durham Region Health Department
www.durham.ca / 1-800-841-2729

Peterborough County-City Health Unit
www.pcchu.peterborough.on.ca / 1-877-743-0101

Of course, parents and staff can also talk to their doctor or Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000. Updated information will also be available on our website: www.pvnccdsb.on.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Mackle', written over a horizontal line.

John Mackle
Director of Education

JM/jpl