



West Sonoma County Union High School District

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ANALY HIGH SCHOOL ♦ EL MOLINO HIGH SCHOOL ♦ LAGUNA HIGH SCHOOL

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SONOMA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH REGARDING MEDICALLY FRAGILE INDIVIDUALS AND H1N1

Information issued on Friday, September 04, 2009

Below is important information from Dr. Mark Netherda, Sonoma County Deputy Public Health Officer. This information pertains only to "medically fragile" students and staff working with special populations as explained in the excerpt from the Centers for Disease Control shown below.

Public Health is recommending that individuals (i.e., students, staff members) with influenza-like illness who work, study, receive or provide daycare in congregate settings where much of the population is at risk for complications from influenza (e.g., classrooms for individuals with neurologic or neuromuscular disorders) should not return to that setting for **seven days after the onset of illness and **24 hours** after fever has resolved, **whichever is longer**. This is the same as the recommendation for healthcare workers.**

See the excerpt below from the national Centers for Disease Control:

"More stringent guidelines and longer periods of exclusion – for example, until complete resolution of all symptoms – may be considered for people returning to a setting where high numbers of high-risk people may be exposed, such as a camp for children with asthma or a child care facility for children younger than 5 years old. High-risk groups for influenza complications include: children younger than 5 years old; persons aged 65 years or older; children and adolescents (younger than 18 years) who are receiving long-term aspirin therapy and who might be at risk for experiencing Reye syndrome after influenza virus infection; pregnant women; adults and children who have asthma, other chronic pulmonary, cardiovascular, hepatic, hematological, neurologic, neuromuscular, or metabolic disorders such as diabetes; adults and children who have immunosuppression (including immunosuppression caused by medications or by HIV); and residents of nursing homes and other chronic-care facilities."

From: CDC Recommendations for the Amount of Time Persons with Influenza-Like Illness Should be Away from Others, August 9, 2009

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/exclusion.htm>

"The mission of the West Sonoma County Union High School District is to provide high quality instruction as student achievement is our top priority."