

Dear Parents,

Thanks to our parents, students and Summit staff working together we continue to decrease exposure the seasonal flu and H1N1 flu.

We do have reported cases of H1N1, but lower counts than many schools in the area. The guidance given by the National Center For Disease Control.

By continuing to implement the following recommendation given by The National Center For Disease Control we can continue to limit exposure and limit students, parents and staff getting the virus. Thank you for your continued support and continuing to implement the following:

- **Stay home when sick:**
Those with flu-like illness should stay home for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever, or signs of a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medicines. They should stay home even if they are using antiviral drugs.
- **Separate ill students and staff:**
Students and staff who appear to have flu-like illness will be sent to a room separate from others until they can be sent home. CDC recommends that they wear a surgical mask, if possible, and that those who care for ill students and staff wear protective gear such as a mask.
- **Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette:**
The new recommendations emphasize the importance of the basic foundations of influenza prevention: stay home when sick, wash hands frequently with soap and water when possible, and cover noses and mouths with a tissue when coughing or sneezing (or a shirt sleeve or elbow if no tissue is available). Our Summit Academy Staff will be reviewing these precautions with students in their classrooms.
- **Routine cleaning:**
School staff will routinely clean areas that students and staff touch often with the cleaners they typically use. Special cleaning with bleach and other non-detergent-based cleaners is not necessary.
- **Early treatment of high-risk students and staff:**
People at high risk for influenza complications who become ill with influenza-like illness should speak with their health care provider as soon as possible. Early treatment with antiviral medications is very important for people at high risk because it can prevent hospitalizations and deaths. People at high risk include those who are pregnant, have asthma or diabetes, have compromised immune systems, or have neuromuscular diseases.
- **Consideration of school closure**
We will closely monitor the numbers of students and staff that may be affected. Monitoring will be coordinated with the local health department. If warranted school could close based on professional recommendations. Please inform us right away if your child is diagnosed with the H1N1 virus.