



*Sweet Home Central School District
of Amherst and Tonawanda*

Office of the Superintendent
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(716) 250-1402

Geoffrey M. Hicks
Superintendent of Schools

May 28, 2009

Dear Parents & Guardians,

The District was notified today by the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) that three more cases of Influenza A H1N1, otherwise known as swine flu have been confirmed within our District. These newest cases involve students at Heritage Heights Elementary, Willow Ridge Elementary and Sweet Home Middle School. Following protocol established by the Erie County Health Department and the Center for Disease Control (CDC), each student will remain out of school for the recommended seven-day infectious period and be symptom free for at least 24 hours before returning to school. There is no reason to close any of our schools at this time. It is possible that other student cases of swine flu will be confirmed in the future. Please be assured that the District continues to monitor the situation closely and is taking every precaution to safeguard the health of our children.

Parents are reminded that it is very important that you do not send your child to school if he/she is experiencing any flu-like symptoms, which include a fever of 100° or more and a sore throat and/ or a cough. Please contact your child's health care provider if the symptoms are of concern. It is also important that you notify the school health office if you have consulted with your child's physician. Students who are ill should remain home and away from others for seven days and until they have been symptom-free for a minimum of 24 hours.

For more information about swine flu H1N1, please visit www.erie.gov/health/swine_flu.asp or call the New York State Department of Health Swine Flu Hot Line at 1-800-808-1987. I will continue to keep our community updated via postings on the District Website at www.sweethomeschools.com.

Thank you for your patience, cooperation and understanding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Geoffrey M. Hicks".

Geoffrey Hicks
Superintendent of Schools