

A.E.R.O.

SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

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Dear Parents and Guardians of A.E.R.O. Students:

We wish to continue updating you on our Cooperative's response to concerns over the H1N1 virus.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is no longer asking physicians to confirm whether or not individuals have the virus. Therefore, while we have a small amount of probable cases, there may be many more cases among students who have flu-like symptoms. Those children will not likely be tested for confirmation of the virus. With this information in mind, please note that our School Nurses are not able to confirm for parents whether or not children in the building have H1N1. We are working with the assumption that there are cases in every school.

We are monitoring attendance at all buildings as well as all reports left by parents when calling their children in absent. We will continue to remind staff and students about the importance of good hygiene through hand washing and covering coughs and sneezes. With your reminders at home as well, we hope we can prevent the spread of this virus in our schools. The health of our students and staff is our top priority and we will always do all we can to ensure our Cooperative is a safe place for learning.

The CDC recommends people should stay home for at least 7 days, even if they feel better sooner. Those who are still sick after 7 days should continue to stay home until at least 24 hours after symptoms have gone away (without the use of medication).

Symptoms of the H1N1 virus may include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea. People may be infected with the flu and have respiratory symptoms without a fever.

Emergency warning signs in children may include fast breathing or trouble breathing, bluish skin color, not drinking enough fluids, not waking up or not interacting, being so irritable that the child does not want to be held, flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough, and fever with a rash.

For more information about the virus please visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/ or call 1-800-CDC-INFO.

Please visit the A.E.R.O. website at www.aerosped.org for any additional updates.



James W. Gunnell
Director of Special Education

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