



WAUSAU SCHOOL DISTRICT

Longfellow Administration Center

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Wausau School District H1N1 Update #2

May 6, 2009

What we know now:

- There are currently 102 probable cases of H1N1 influenza identified in Wisconsin, with five confirmed cases. There are no confirmed cases of H1N1 influenza in Marathon County as of Tuesday, May 5, 2009.

DEFINITIONS OF H1N1 INFLUENZA TERMS:

- **Suspect**-Students/staff exhibiting one or more symptoms of H1N1 Influenza: Signs and symptoms include a fever equal to or greater than 100° and one or more the following symptoms: 1. Headache/body ache 2. Cough/sore throat/runny nose 3. Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
- **Probable**-Healthcare provider determines that symptoms are such that an H1N1 test is warranted
- **Confirmed**-Testing confirms presence of H1N1 virus. (Conducted by CDC or State of Wisconsin laboratories)
- H1N1 is a Novel virus transmitted human to human. The best way to stop its spread is to keep people who may have been exposed to the virus at home. Families should continue to enforce good hygiene practices including covering nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, washing hands with soap and water, or using hand sanitizer if washing with soap and water is not possible.
- Marathon County Health Department (MCHD) provides daily updates to the District and is monitoring the situation very closely.

What the Wausau School District has done to date:

- Staff and students received letters from the District and MCHD regarding H1N1 status, symptom identification, infectious control techniques, care recommendations, and Internet contacts for more information on May 1, 2009.
- The District continues surveillance and monitoring of student/staff for influenza symptoms along with daily disinfection of touchable surfaces. *(The District strongly urges individuals with these symptoms to see their healthcare provider and recommends a health care provider release before returning to school.)*

New school closure guidelines have been established by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) (as of 05-05-09)

The CDC is recommending an approach that will focus on keeping all students and staff with symptoms of influenza out of school in order to decrease spread of infection to others. School closure is not advised for a suspected or confirmed case of H1N1 influenza, and, in general, is not advised unless there is a magnitude of faculty or student absenteeism that interferes with the school's ability to function.

- As always, the Wausau School District will work directly with the Marathon County Health Department to determine if there is a need for school closure.
- Parents should check for H1N1 Influenza updates on the District's Web site at www.wausau.k12.wi.us. Follow the **Swine Flu Info. For Parents** link on the homepage.