
TALKING POINTS

Below is information from Atlanta Public Schools that can be shared with parents or others who call with concerns about a swine flu outbreak. Specific questions should be referred to the Fulton County Health and Wellness Department at (404) 730-1211.

So far APS has taken a number of precautionary measures:

- We posted links to information about swine flu on the district Web site and school Web sites.
- We sent letters to all parents about swine flu and how to prevent the spread of the virus.
- We provided principals with facts and steps to prevent outbreaks.
- We posted information to our intranet to keep employees informed.
- We sent an all-users email to employees to advise them of the steps that we are taking to prevent an outbreak.

Atlanta Public Schools routinely works with the Fulton County Health and Wellness Department to monitor illnesses to look for trends and determine when specific local responses to significant increases in illness are required.

As of April 29, 2009 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported 91 cases of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infection in five U.S. states. So far, no confirmed or suspected cases have been detected in Georgia.

Georgia Department of Health officials are reminding people to observe routine public health recommendations for preventing the spread of the flu:

- Keep your child home from school if they are sick, and contact a health physician if the child exhibits flu-like symptoms.
- Instruct children to cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around your child from getting sick.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.
- Wash hands frequently to protect against germs. Wash with soap and water, or clean with alcohol-based hand cleaner.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose or mouth.
- Practice other good health habits. Keep yourself strong – and more resistant to disease – by getting plenty of sleep, staying physically active, managing stress, drinking plenty of fluids and eating nutritious food.

Atlanta Public Schools
Emergency Preparedness : Swine Flu
April 29, 2009

Please check the CDC web site (<http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>) frequently for updates and revised recommendations.