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Our mission is to protect the health, safety and well-being of all Union County by providing quality public health services.

**An equal opportunity  
employer/ provider**

September 22, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians,


The 2009 H1N1 flu is causing mild to severe illness in school aged children throughout the US. To date, an outbreak of H1N1 flu has not occurred in any Union County school. In order to help keep flu viruses out of our schools and to help slow the spread of flu viruses, children who develop influenza-like illness during the school day or who have a fever 100 degrees or higher will be sent home. Since the virus is primarily spread through respiratory droplets, your child may be asked to wear a mask by school staff until such time that you may be able to arrange to pick up your child. Once home, your child will be required to remain home until they have been without a fever for 24 hours – without fever reducing medicine like Tylenol. We understand that this may put a burden on families, however, no one has a natural immunity to the virus and it spreads rapidly.


Vaccination is the best way to protect your child from this potentially serious disease. The Union County Health Department is working with your school to plan an evening H1N1 vaccine clinic at a school building in your district. These vaccination clinics will be held sometime this fall, and your child's school will let you know the dates. Children may need two doses of vaccine spaced approximately 3 to 4 weeks apart. There will be no cost to you for this vaccine.

A signed consent (to be provided) and an adult responsible for the child will need to be present at the time of vaccination. Please remember that this vaccine is NOT REQUIRED and no child will be immunized without the expressed consent of their parent or legal guardian.

If you have concerns about the H1N1 virus or vaccine, please call the Union County Health Department at 937-642-0801, Monday–Friday, 8am–4pm, or your health care provider. You may also wish to visit the CDC's 2009 H1N1 flu website at [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov) for more information.

Sincerely,

  
Jason Orcena, MA  
Health Commissioner

  
Julie Miller, RN, MSN  
Director of Nursing