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Serving The
Timberlane Regional School District
Hampstead School District

May 4, 2009

To Staff and Parents,

We trust you have enjoyed a short but restful vacation. Spring has arrived and we are experiencing a pleasant weather break. Unfortunately, along with this better weather comes the annual allergy and cold season. This year we must also be aware of the latest flu outbreak – the H1N1 Virus (Swine Flu). This virus is a national concern and we must work together and take proactive actions to help prevent its spread.

The best defense is good information and responsible action. With good information we can feel confident in staying calm, making beneficial decisions, and taking helpful steps to assist in the prevention of the further spread of this virus. We must also guard against overreaction by differentiating between typical seasonal allergies and cough and cold from the much more serious H1N1 symptoms and indications. To this end, we have provided pertinent information and “Frequently Asked Questions” on our District website at www.timberlane.net and www.hampstead.k12.nh.us. Your school nurse or health care provider can also be a valuable resource to you if you have more specific concerns.

Please find below a list of actions that the School Districts are taking to ensure the safety of all of our students and employees:

- Receiving, monitoring and sharing all pertinent information as appropriate. Participating in informational meetings and webinars, and working closely with local and state communicable disease experts, and the NH Department of Education.
- Following closely the advisories and protocols established through the NH Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Disease Control and the National Centers for Disease Control.
- Monitoring staff and students who have traveled into affected areas and following established guidelines of care for all individuals who manifest “flu-like” symptoms in school.
- Sharing, encouraging and teaching proper health behaviors – hand washing, coughing and sneezing management, etc.
- Stocking and making available as practical hand sanitizers and hand washing supplies.
- Encouraging parents to become informed and to use their best judgment in managing their family’s health.
- Encouraging all ill employees and students to remain at home until fully recovered.
- Continuing building maintenance and sanitation efforts.

We thank you for your continued support and your efforts in managing this national health concern.

Sincerely,



Richard A. La Salle
Superintendent of Schools



Winfried Feneberg
Assistant Superintendent