



STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Where kids achieve!

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The purpose of the communication is to update students and parents on Sterling Public Schools' (SPS) plan to provide the Whiteside County Health Department (WCHD) access to each of our buildings so they can establish H1N1 Influenza Vaccination Clinics.

Where can I learn more about H1N1 Flu and the vaccination?

Our website homepage, located at www.sterlingpublicschools.org, has lots of information and resources about the 2009 H1N1 Flu virus.

Controversy over the H1N1 Flu Vaccination

SPS is aware the H1N1 Flu Vaccine is a controversial issue, but the WCHD, the IDPH, the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) are stating that vaccinations are an integral part of protecting individuals from the 2009 H1N1 Flu virus. At SPS we are not taking a formal position that students must receive the 2009 H1N1 Flu vaccine, because we believe that decision should be made by parents. At SPS, we believe our role is to provide the location and opportunity for our students whose parents want them to receive the 2009 H1N1 Flu vaccine.

Tentative Vaccination Schedule

Due to the seriousness of this potential H1N1 Pandemic Flu outbreak, the WCHD will establish free H1N1 Flu Vaccination Clinics at each of our schools on the following dates and times. ***The H1N1 Flu Vaccination shots are completely voluntary, and will be administered by WCHD's nurses.***

- If a parent/guardian cannot make the designated date and time listed below, he or she has the option of bringing his or her child to any other SPS school on that school's H1N1 Flu vaccination clinic day. Additionally, parents can take their child to the WCHD's H1N1 Vaccination Clinic located across the street from Rock Falls High School.

Building	Tentative Date of H1N1 Vaccinations	Tentative Times
Jefferson	Tuesday October 20 th	1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
SHS	Wednesday October 21 st	10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
Franklin	Thursday October 22 nd	1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
Lincoln	Thursday October 29th	1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
Washington	Thursday October 29th	1:30 PM – 4:00 PM
CMS	Thursday October 29th	1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

A step-by-step process for Vaccination

1. *Choose if you want your child to receive a free H1N1 vaccination.*
 - As a parent, if you're having a difficult time deciding whether or not to have the H1N1 Flu vaccination, there are online resources located at www.sterlingpublicschools.org.
2. *Access the H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Consent Form.*
 - This H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Consent Form can be found in any one of the following three locations:
 - Each Sterling Public School student will personally receive a H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Consent Form to take home to his or her parents/guardians on Thursday October 1, 2009. This is the "golden-rod" colored page of your student's packet.
 - Online at www.sterlingpublicschools.org
 - In the main office of each building
3. *Complete **both sides** of the H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Consent Form.*
 - By The Center for Disease Control's (CDC) regulations, a H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Consent Form must be completed for each child receiving the vaccination.
 - Families cannot just complete one form for all its children who attend Sterling Public Schools.
4. *Return the H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Consent Form to your child's school.*
 - This form must be completed, signed, and returned before a H1N1 vaccination will be administered.
 - Permission to administer the H1N1 Flu vaccination will *not* be granted via telephone.
 - The four acceptable means of returning the H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Consent Form include:
 - Hand deliver the signed consent form to school prior to date listed above. You, or your child, can give it to his or her teacher or school nurse.
 - Fax the signed consent form to your child's school nurse
 - Email the signed consent form to your school's nurse (pdf format only)
 - Bring the signed consent form with you as you personally accompany your child at the time of vaccination.
5. *Determine if you want to be present at the time of the H1N1 Flu vaccination.*
 - As a parent/guardian you may be present at the time of your child's H1N1 Flu vaccination.
 - You also have the option of only administering your child's H1N1 Flu vaccination in your presence.
 - If you choose to attend with your child:
 - A. Please indicate that on the back side of the H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Consent Form.
 - B. We recommend you and your child come after school hours