

FRANKLIN CENTRAL SUPERVISORY UNION

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*Fairfield Center School • St. Albans City School • St. Albans Town Educational Center
Bellows Free Academy Union District #48 • Northwest Technical Center*

ROBERT E. ROSANE
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May 1, 2009

Dear Parents:

As you are all aware, there has been an international outbreak of a novel strain of swine influenza in humans. Although no cases have been identified in Vermont, I wanted to assure you that Franklin Central Supervisory Union schools are doing everything possible to protect our students and keep our schools healthy. Our nurses are in regular contact with the Vermont Department of health, and we are increasing our focus on preventive steps.

In collaboration with the National Department of Health, we are providing information to you on what our schools are doing regarding this health threat and what you can do to reduce your risk. Vermonters are being advised to stay tuned, and to take the following precautions:

- Wash your hands often and well.
- Use alcohol-based hand wipes and gel sanitizers if soap and water are not available.
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw it away.
- Stay home from work or school and away from others if you are sick.
- If you need medical attention, call your health care provider first.

Symptoms of swine flu are similar to seasonal influenza and include fever, lethargy, lack of appetite, and coughing. Some people with swine flu also have reported runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea. Like seasonal flu, swine flu may cause a worsening of underlying medical conditions. For further information, go to the following link from the Center for Disease Control:

<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu>

In situations like this, the threat posed by rumors and misinformation can often be greater than the actual health risks. If you have questions or concerns, it is important that you contact us immediately. I assure you that we will be diligent in communicating any changes in status with the community and with families.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Rosane
Superintendent