



Annapolis Valley

REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD

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Superintendent of Schools

April 27, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians:

On Sunday, four diagnosed cases of swine flu affecting students at King's Edgehill School were confirmed. Since that announcement, we have been in contact with Public Health officials to gain information as to how we should proceed in AVRSB schools.

At this time, Dr. Richard Gould, Medical Officer of Health for Annapolis Valley District Health Authority, is advising that if a person has recently returned from Mexico or has been in contact with students or staff from King's Edgehill within the past seven days and develops flu-like symptoms, that person should stay at home and contact his or her physician. In addition, any students and staff who have flu-like symptoms should stay at home, as would be the case for any flu, and consult a physician if symptoms worsen.

Swine flu is an influenza-like illness. Symptoms show up within seven days of infection, and include:

- Fever
- Fatigue
- Lack of appetite
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Body aches/headache
- Chills
- Vomiting and diarrhea (in some cases)

To help prevent the spread of the virus, people should wash their hands often, avoid sharing drinking glasses and eating utensils, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or elbow, promptly discard tissues into the garbage, and stay home if symptoms are being experienced.

For more information regarding swine flu, you may go to Nova Scotia Health Promotion and Protection's website. A link is available from our website, avrsb.ednet.ns.ca.

We will continue to remain in close contact with Public Health as the situation evolves, and will communicate any updated information as we receive it.

Sincerely,

MARGO TAIT
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS