



P.S. 101
THE VERRAZANO SCHOOL
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Gregg Korrol
Principal

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Dear parents and families of PS 101 students,

There have been many calls in recent days regarding the Swine Flu (H1N1). In order to support you in the best way I can, I want to share with you the facts I currently have:

1. We do not have any confirmed cases of H1N1 in PS101. Most flu in New York City at the moment is thought to be H1N1 flu and authorities are not testing most of those with flu symptoms.
2. We have sent home students with Flu-like symptoms (fever, cough, etc). **These students should not return until they have been symptom free for at least 24 hours.**
3. We have had a lot of students absent, but cannot confirm if this is due to illness or if parents are being precautionous.
You can see out daily absentee rate by visiting the Department of Education's website:
<http://schools.nyc.gov/Home/Spotlight/closures.htm>
4. The decision to close a school is made by the Chancellor, and not by the school itself. This decision is based primarily on the number of students sent home with both a fever of 100.4 or higher and another flu symptom such as cough or sore throat.

H1N1 is a lot like regular (seasonal) flu. Most people who get it have only a mild illness, and most get better on their own without medicine. But some people are more likely to get seriously ill if they come down with the flu. Those at high risk of complications include children under 2, adults over 65, pregnant women, and people with chronic medical conditions such as diabetes or asthma. Flu also poses special dangers for people with heart, liver, kidney or blood disorders, and for people with neurological problems that can interfere with breathing.

You, as your child's parent, are responsible for making the decision that is best for your child. If you do not feel comfortable sending your child to school, that is your decision. We are here, and we are teaching every day. However, if your child is not feeling well, please be considerate of others and do not send him/her to school.

Please note that it is recommended that students who are absent have a medical note upon returning to school. Working with us will ensure that our kids are healthy and safe, and I am dependent upon you, the parent, for assisting us in these matters.

Please visit our school website for updated information: www.ps101verrazano.com

Thank you,

G. Korrol
Principal