

GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

UPDATE

For immediate release – Greenwich, CT: Friday, May 22, 2009

We have been informed by the Greenwich Department of Health that in the 6th grade at Western Middle School – to date – there have been 19 *negative* rapid flu tests and 14 rapid flu tests are *positive* for some type of flu. The flu virus rapid tests cannot determine whether it is the H1N1 virus. Both the positive and negative rapid tests flu have been sent to the State Department of Health for further testing. As we will not have the results from the State until mid to late next week, and with guidance from medical experts, the District is seriously considering postponing and/or canceling the Western Middle School 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C. next week. The school is in the process of contacting 8th grade parents now to discuss the situation.

REMINDER:

Swine flu is a mild form of the flu. Its symptoms may include, a fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, and body aches just like many other illnesses.

If someone has one or even all of these symptoms, does NOT mean they have swine flu.

Only a doctor can tell you whether you have swine flu.

Like many other illness, you can help prevent spreading the germs by frequent hand washing, coughing into your arm, using tissues when you sneeze and not sharing food.

The best advice we can give all adults and children is “if you don’t feel well, you should stay home and go to your doctor. If you are feeling fine, you should come to school.”

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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State of Connecticut at Tel [860] 509-7729
For more information on H1N1 flu:

- Greenwich Department of Health: www.greenwichct.org
- Connecticut Flu Watch: www.ct.gov/ctfluwatch/swineflu
- Connecticut Department of Public Health: www.ct.gov/health
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention School Guidance: www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/k12_dismissal.htm

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