



TEHAMA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Date: April 28, 2009

Time: 12:15 p.m.

UPDATE: SWINE INFLUENZA A

Today, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger declared a State of Emergency due to the swine influenza outbreak. This will help to coordinate and expedite resources to identify, test, and treat potential cases.

Currently, no cases of Swine Influenza A H1N1 have been identified in Tehama County. Protocols have been identified for guidelines pertaining to school closures, in accordance with the California Department of Public Health and our local Health Officer, Dr. Richard Wickenheiser. These draft guidelines include:

- Dismissal of students should be strongly considered in schools with a confirmed or a suspected case epidemiologically linked to a confirmed case.
- Decisions regarding broader school dismissal within these communities should be left to local authorities, taking into account the extent of ILI (influenza like illness) or swine influenza in the community.
- If the school dismisses students or a childcare facility closes, they should also cancel all school or childcare related gatherings and encourage parents and students to avoid congregating outside of the school.
- Schools and childcare facilities should dismiss students for a time period to be evaluated on an ongoing basis depending upon epidemiological findings.
- If no additional confirmed or suspected cases are identified among students (or school-based personnel) for a period of 7 days, schools may consider reopening.

Again, NO incidences have been reported and there are no current plans for any Tehama County school closures. However, we wanted you to be aware of the guidelines, should the Health Officer need to make that recommendation at some point in the future. Please continue to check our website for updated information.

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