

GEORGETOWN ISD Health Services

Georgetown ISD is part of the regional health and emergency management team that is closely monitoring the Swine Flu outbreak, which is also being called the North American Influenza. To date, there are no confirmed reports of this flu in Austin-Travis-Williamson-Hays counties.

As is the practice of GISD Health Services throughout the school year, campus nurses are vigilant in assessing and monitoring all illnesses, reporting diagnosed flu and flu-like illness trends weekly to the state health department. In addition, campus nurses will report any increase in illnesses to GISD Administration. Due to our population density, school district communities are susceptible to the spread of illness. We will increase our reminders to staff/students and families to remember to practice good health behaviors:

- Wash hands thoroughly/frequently with soap and water – use hand sanitizer correctly when away from a water source
- Cover coughs/sneezes and dispose of tissue in trash can
- Keep hands away from mouth/eyes/nose
- Stay home from work/school when ill
- If one has a fever over 100.4, remain home until 24 hours fever free off any type of fever reducing medication

Symptoms of Swine/North American Flu in people are similar to those of regular or seasonal flu and include fever, fatigue, lack of appetite and coughing. Some with Swine/North American Flu also have reported runny nose, sore throat, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. If students, family members, faculty and/or staff experience any of the symptoms of swine flu they should call their personal healthcare providers for guidance regarding evaluation and treatment. Additionally, please report any travel to Mexico within seven days of the onset of symptoms to the school nurse and your physician. The majority of the patients with this flu have reported that the symptoms are mild and they have recovered fully.

The school district is working with city, county and state health authorities on this matter. We will continue to monitor the situation here in the United States and Mexico. If you would like more information about swine flu, please visit:

<http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/key facts.html>

Additional resources for local information include: Williamson County -

<http://www.wcchd.org/PublicHealthAlerts.htm>

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