



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **CDC announces that it is no longer recommending that schools close because of H1N1 (Swine Flu)** *County will reopen previously closed schools*

San Jose, CALIF. –Dr. Fenstersheib, Health Officer for Santa Clara County has re-issued guidance to district superintendents based on CDC’s latest recommendation. The new recommendations are to reopen schools as early as tomorrow.

“We are thankful for the cooperation we’ve received from the schools that have closed, and understand the impact these closures have on the entire community,” said Dr. Fenstersheib. “The closing of schools was necessary to help us slow the spread of this illness and gave us time to better understand this new virus.”

The schools that are closed today and recommended to reopen tomorrow are:

- Branham High School, 1570 Branham Lane, San Jose
- Delphi Academy & Elan Espirit Preschool, 890 Pomeroy Avenue, Santa Clara
- Challenger School, 730 Camina Escuela, San Jose
- Ruskin Elementary School & Sunshine School preschool, 2550 Greengate Drive, San Jose
- Daves Avenue Elementary, 17770 Daves Avenue, Monte Soreno

As this outbreak unfolded over the last two weeks, the Santa Clara County Public Health Department took a cautious approach to ensure the public’s health, and worked to better understand this new virus.

Information gathered over the last week in Santa Clara County and elsewhere in the country show that most U.S. cases have not been severe and are comparable in severity to seasonal influenza.

The cooperation with superintendents, principals, teachers and parents has been outstanding. We are now asking schools to do the following:

- Each morning, all parents and caregivers should assess all family members and especially school age children for flu symptoms.
- Each morning, school faculty should assess themselves for symptoms of flu.
- Students or faculty with flu-like illness should stay home. Anyone who is sick with flu-like symptoms should stay home for at least 7 days, even if they no longer have symptoms.
- If a student or faculty member is sick with flu-like illness, for more than seven days they should stay home for at least 24 hours after they stopped having symptoms.
- Schools should screen students and staff for visible signs of flu-like illness when they come to school.
- If you or your child's symptoms become more severe, call your doctor, pediatrician or healthcare provider.

As of today, Santa Clara County has seven (7) confirmed cases of H1N1 influenza virus (swine flu). An additional ten (10) cases have been identified as “probable” in Santa Clara County. Yesterday, the CDC reported that nationwide, 99% of probable cases are ending up confirmed.

Additional information including Home Care Guide instructions and checklists for preparing for an influenza emergency, visit the Santa Clara County Public Health Department website at [www.sccphd.org](http://www.sccphd.org). You can also call 2-1-1 or the Public Health Information Line at 408.885.3980. For information about H1N1 (Swine Flu) please call the California Public Health Department toll-free hotline at 1-888-865-0564 (Monday – Friday from 7am to 6 pm and Saturday/Sunday from 8 am to 4 pm) or the Public Health Information Line at 885-3980. For more information about H1N1 (Swine Flu), visit <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu> For information in Spanish, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/espanol/influenza-porcina-datos.htm>