

# *Westwood Community School District*

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Ermando F. Minghine, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

October 27, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Westwood Community School District is writing this letter to all of our parents due to concern about how schools are going to report confirmed H1N1 flu cases. We hope that the following information will help to clarify our position and guide you in your individual decision making.

Novel 2009 H1N1 Influenza A (Swine flu) was declared a pandemic (meaning it is present all over the world and spreads rapidly) by the World Health Organization in June of this year. Cases in this country were first reported in the spring of 2009 and have continued all summer with some areas of the country experiencing a heavier incidence of disease than others. Since late summer and early fall the rate of spread has increased. As of October 16, 2009, the map of the United States on the Center for Disease Control (CDC) website showed 41 states classified as having widespread H1N1 flu. Michigan has just been classified as "widespread," and it is surrounded by states labeled "widespread."

So what does this imply for our district? It means that we are not an exception. Cases of H1N1 in our school community are going to increase in number. At this point it serves no purpose to send home new letters every day. The flu is here! To protect our children and community members the best way possible, follow these guidelines:

- ✓ **Get immunized!** This is the most important thing you can do for protection. Free walk-in clinics will be provided by the Wayne County Public Health Department (WCPHD) for mass delivery of H1N1 immunization (see attached). In addition all of the regular WCPHD immunization clinics will be offering H1N1 vaccine (also attached). Private care providers will have vaccine soon, so you can stay in touch with those offices for their times. Priority "high risk" groups need to receive their vaccine first, but everyone will be able to get immunized as more supplies of vaccine are made available. High risk groups are as follows:
  - Pregnant women
  - Anyone 6 months to 24 years of age
  - Anyone in close contact with children under 6 months
  - Anyone 24 to 64 with underlying health conditions, such as asthma, diabetes, and immune suppression (talk with your primary care provider if you are not sure)
  - Emergency medical personnel and health care workers

- ✓ **Be alert to signs of flu-like-illness:**
  - Temperature over 100° F or 37.8° C
  - Sore throat, headache, runny nose, dry cough, aches, tired, vomiting/diarrhea
- ✓ Do not send sick children to school.
- ✓ Keep all children home for 24 hours after fever is gone (without medication to lower).
- ✓ Wash your hands frequently and teach children to do the same.
- ✓ Cover coughs.
- ✓ **Try to distance yourself from people with flu-like-illness.**
  - Schools will be sending home all children with flu-like illness.
  - Children will be isolated as much as possible while waiting to go home.
  - Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care.
- ✓ **Seek treatment** (antiviral medication needs to be given within the first 48 hours of H1N1 flu to be the most effective) or medical advice for anyone sick with flu-like illness who falls into a high risk group for complications (pregnant, under 6 months of age, 6 months to 4 years old, over 4 with an underlying health condition)
- ✓ **Seek Immediate Help** if any flu-like illness seems to get better and then becomes worse again or any time there is difficulty with breathing or staying hydrated. If in doubt, call your medical provider!

Westwood Community School District will continue to do our part during the school day to keep children healthy by following the CDC and WCPHD guidelines for our current rates of infection and severity of cases.

- Cleaning surfaces that are touched frequently by many people
- Allowing time to wash hands with soap and water
- Teaching cough etiquette
- Providing hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available
- Sending sick children home

If further action is required, you will be notified. Until that time, please view this letter as an update. We will not send more letters based solely on new cases in our district.

Sincerely,



Dr. Ernando F. Minghine  
Superintendent of Schools

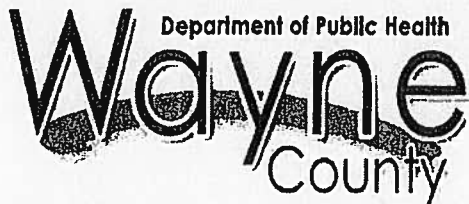
## H1N1 Mass Vaccination Walk-in Clinic Schedule

<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Including the surrounding communities:</b>
October 24, 2009 10 AM - 4 PM	Hamtramck High School Community Center 11350 Charest Hamtramck, MI 48212	Hamtramck, Highland Park, Harper Woods, Grosse Pointe
November 14, 2009 10 AM - 4 PM	Hamtramck High School 11410 Charest Hamtramck, MI 48212	Hamtramck, Highland Park, Harper Woods, Grosse Pointe
November 14, 2009 10 AM - 4 PM	Schoolcraft Community College 18600 Haggerty Road Livonia, MI 48152	Livonia, Plymouth, Northville, Canton, Redford, Westland, Inkster, Garden City, Wayne, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights
November 21, 2009 10 AM - 4 PM	Huron High School 32044 Huron River New Boston, MI 48164	New Boston, Huron Twp., Belleville, Van Buren, Romulus, Riverview, Trenton, Rockwood, Gibraltar, Grosse Ile, Woodhaven, Flat Rock
December 5, 2009 10 AM - 4 PM	Schoolcraft Community College 18600 Haggerty Road Livonia, MI 48152	Livonia, Plymouth, Northville, Canton, Redford, Westland, Inkster, Garden City, Wayne, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights
December 12, 2009 10 AM - 4 PM	Huron High School 32044 Huron River New Boston, MI 48164	New Boston, Huron Twp., Belleville, Van Buren, Romulus, Riverview, Trenton, Rockwood, Gibraltar, Grosse Ile, Woodhaven, Flat Rock
December 19, 2009 10 AM - 4 PM	Lincoln Park High School 1701 Champaign Road Lincoln Park, MI 48146	Lincoln Park, Allen Park, Melvindale, River Rouge, Ecorse, Wyandotte, Southgate, Brownstown, Taylor
January 9, 2010 10 AM - 4 PM	Lincoln Park High School 1701 Champaign Road Lincoln Park, MI 48146	Lincoln Park, Allen Park, Melvindale, River Rouge, Ecorse, Wyandotte, Southgate, Brownstown, Taylor

**Please wear short sleeves or shirt that can roll up to the shoulder.**

### For Wayne County residents in Targeted Groups:

- Pregnant women
- Individuals 6 months to 24 yrs of age
- Persons who live with or provide care for children less than 6 months of age
- Adults 25 to 64 yrs of age with underlying medical conditions
- Health Care workers and Emergency personnel



**starting Oct. 16**

**Free of charge**

**Vaccine to priority targeted populations first as follows:**

**Pregnant women; Persons who live/provide care for children less than 6 months of age; Individuals 6 months to 24 years of age; Adults 25 to 64 years of age with underlying medical conditions; Essential personnel (police, fire, etc.)/health care workers.**

## **Wayne County residents: -Get Your H1N1 Flu Shot-**

### **Health Department Locations**

Redford  
17421 Telegraph Rd.  
Redford, MI 48239  
313-537-1708  
9 a.m.— 3:00 p.m.  
**Monday—Friday**  
**Call for Appointment Only.**

Taylor  
26650 Eureka Rd.  
Taylor, MI 48180  
734-955-3900  
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., M, TU., TH, FRI.  
11 a.m.— 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays  
**Walk In: Mondays & Thursdays**  
**Appointment Only: Tuesdays,**  
**Wednesdays & Fridays**



**Robert A. Ficano**  
Wayne County Executive

Wayne  
33030 Van Born Rd.  
Wayne, MI 48184  
734-727-7100  
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., M., TU., TH, FRI  
11 a.m.— 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays  
**Walk In : Mondays & Thursdays**  
**Appointment Only: Tuesdays,**  
**Wednesdays & Fridays**

**For Information call**  
**734-727-7000**

**or visit:**

[www.waynecounty.com](http://www.waynecounty.com)

**Click on homepage link for H1N1 Flu Information**