

September 4, 2009

Dear Parents of our Lancers,

La Salle continues to follow the recommendations and guidelines received from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Hamilton County Department of Health, and the Archdiocese of Cincinnati regarding the appropriate response to any flu virus during the 2009-2010 school year, including the H1N1 influenza.

Our present school response plan, based upon current flu conditions, includes telling students and employees who develop flu-like illness that they should stay home for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever or signs of a fever, without the use of fever-reducing medicines. They should stay home even if they are using antiviral drugs. Students will need to use Moodle and other technological means to remain current with their school work during that missed school time. Students, who while at school appear to have flu-like illness, will be separated from others and wear a surgical mask until they can be sent home.

Students and staff continue to be reminded of basic good hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette – to wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and completely dry them, especially after coughing or sneezing, and to cover noses and mouths with a tissue or handkerchief when coughing or sneezing (or use their shirt sleeve or elbow if no tissue is available). They are also encouraged to avoid touching their mouths, eyes, and noses since germs can easily spread that way.

Additionally, we wish to coordinate everything possible to hopefully prevent an outbreak at our school. Thus, we have a request of you. We are asking you to purchase a canister of sanitizing wipes which your son can keep in his locker and to restock that supply when he exhausts them. After each class block when he returns to his locker to exchange his books and other school items in preparation for his next class, we want him to grab one of the wipes and take it to his next classroom. Upon arriving in that room, we would like for him to wipe both his hands and the top of his desk and then dispose the wipe in the class trashcan. We realize supplying these sanitizing wipes is an extra burden on you – we thank you for your assistance in providing them for your son to help protect him.

Our school custodial staff will continue their increased frequency of cleaning common areas that are routinely touched often by our students and staff.

We have been informed that La Salle has been chosen to be a site of distribution to students when the H1N1 vaccine becomes available. It will be offered to our students and to students attending certain designated Catholic elementary schools. More information will be shared with you when it becomes available to us.

As the school year progresses, La Salle will continue to monitor recommendations from the CDC and other officials to see if an increased response will be necessary during a more severe flu outbreak.

We thank you for your assistance in helping us to maintain a safe and healthy environment at La Salle.

Forever know that I care ....

Thomas Luebbe '73

Principal of La Salle

*"A Catholic high school of distinction in the Lasallian tradition....  
....a Home of Strong Hearts, Strong Minds, and Strong Leaders."*