

The Atlanta Area School for the Deaf is receiving on-going guidance from the DeKalb County Board of Health (DBOH), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) to ensure that we have the most updated information and can modify its procedures in response to revised guidance from these agencies.

The key is to stringently follow sanitary measures to reduce the spread of germs. **All persons** are encouraged to frequently wash their hands with soap and water or use a hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available. Hand sanitizers are currently being placed in schools and other district facilities. Furthermore, cover your cough/sneeze by using a tissue (and properly discard) or your sleeve if a tissue is not available.

Students (and others) with flu-like illness (fever 100+° F or 37.8° C with a cough or sore throat) should keep away from others as much as possible, stay home and not attend school or go into the community (except to seek medical care or for other necessities) for at least 24 hours after fever is gone (without the use of fever-reducing medication). Ill students should not attend alternative child care or congregate in other neighborhood and community settings outside of school.

Parents/Guardians should monitor their child for flu-like symptoms. Students, faculty and staff who appear to have a flu-like illness upon arrival at school or during the day will be promptly isolated in a room away from others. If the ill person is a student, his/her parent will immediately be called. Persons who appear to have a flu-like illness will be sent home. Do not administer medication containing aspirin to a child 18 years of age or younger who is exhibiting flu-like symptoms.

The CDC has revised its position on school dismissals (closures). Currently, a decision to close schools will be made by the State Board of Education upon receiving recommendations from the CDC and the GaDOE. This decision will be based on the virus' impact on school operations (staff absences, student absences, etc.) and/or the need to hinder the spread of the virus. Schools **may not** necessarily be closed based just on a single suspected or confirmed case of Novel flu.

**Here are some important links that will help you and your family to stay healthy and informed.**

- [Roll Up Your Sleeve Brochure](#)
- [The Centers for Disease Control H1N1 Updates](#)
- [General Information on all types of flu](#)
- [Swine Flu/H1N1 Information in ASL](#)