

# School District No. 71 (Comox Valley)

Board of Education

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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We have been alerted by the Vancouver Island Health Authority that we have one student at Royston Elementary who has tested positive for Influenza A. There has been no confirmation of a positive test for H1N1.

In monitoring the level of absenteeism in the school, it has been elevated but at this time the number of students absent for reasons that include flu-like symptoms is relatively low. If your child is absent and you are phoning the school, it is helpful if you can tell us if your child has symptoms of the flu.

The school district would like to remind parents of our processes around influenza as we continue to plan for any confirmed cases of H1N1. These plans include:

- Isolating students who have flu like symptoms, contacting home and arranging for transportation home;
- Telling staff members who are ill to stay home;
- Monitoring the levels of absenteeism at schools due to flu-like symptoms; and
- Increasing the cleaning routines at schools including additional cleaning of flat surfaces.

To prevent the further spread of influenza we encourage our students, staff and families to:

- Continue to practice good personal hygiene including regular washing of hands;
- Cough into a tissue or the inside of your elbow;
- Stay two metres away from anyone who is ill; and
- If you are sick, stay home until your symptoms are gone.

The school district and the Vancouver Island Health Authority have several resources for parents and the community on H1N1 including information for symptoms of the flu and what to do if your child is sick. Our website is at [sd71.bc.ca](http://sd71.bc.ca) and we encourage you to look there for more information.



Jordan Tinney  
Superintendent of Schools

