



BULLETIN

Ottawa Carleton Elementary Teachers' Federation

www.ocetf.org

Stewards: Please forward the following information to your members:

On Thursday morning August 27, OCETF received information on the Board plan for H1N1 planning. The Board plan emphasizes keeping schools open and teachers/staff remaining in their assignments unless they themselves exhibit symptoms. A special designated area should be assigned for students exhibiting flu symptoms until parents have come to pick them up. Should 10% of the school population be absent, then the Principal will inform Ottawa Public Health and their school Superintendent. Ottawa Public Health will investigate the absences to determine what if any action will be taken. The Board will be encouraging a hand washing/sanitizing program which the principals will be communicating to teachers.

The Board cites Canada's Public Health Agency and Ottawa Public Health which both state that persons with pre-existing chronic conditions or who are pregnant are not at an increased risk of contracting the disease but are more likely to develop complications should they contract H1N1. Teachers in these situations should contact their health care provider for advice.

OCETF will be attending another Board meeting on September 3 to receive updates. It remains the OCETF position that teachers with medical concerns including pregnant teachers should follow the advice from their medical providers. If there is a case of H1N1 in your school and you are pregnant we urge you to contact our office for support.

Regards,

Peter Giuliani OCETF President
Janet Fraser OCETF 1st Vice President
Robert J Ferguson OCETF 2nd Vice President
Jeff Beckstead OCETF CBC Chair