

H1N1 – FAQ's

Vaccination Related Questions

- 1. When is the anticipated date that local opportunities will exist to receive the vaccination shots for H1N1?**
Nationwide, roll-out of the H1N1 vaccine has been slower than anticipated. Consequently, local health officials report no current information regarding the date when the vaccine will become available in our area. As soon as availability is reported to us by health officials, we will share that information via this website.
- 2. Will LBUSD facilities become centers to provide the vaccination shots?**
It is possible, but unlikely, that our schools will be selected as vaccination centers based upon the lack of accessible parking during the school days. We will work closely with local agencies in support of identifying vaccination centers which are proximate to Laguna Beach and share those locations with our families as site locations become known to us.
- 3. How will families be notified of the timelines and processes to sign up for the shots?**
Via this website as information becomes known to us on this topic.
- 4. Does the District have a recommendation for parents about students receiving the shot? If my child has flu symptoms should I have him/her tested for the H1N1 virus?**
Our recommendation is very clear; families should consult their own physician to determine the viability of taking the H1N1 vaccine.

General Questions

- 1. Have there been any cases of H1N1 diagnosed in LBUSD this school year?**
There have been less than a handful of confirmed H1N1 cases in LBUSD schools this year. However, based upon national trends we could experience a dramatic increase in H1N1 incidences within a very short period of time. Therefore, we caution all of our families to act in accordance with best preventative practices.
- 2. What are the key points for parents to know in terms of minimizing the risk of students contacting H1N1 or spreading it to others if they have contacted the virus?**
The advice being shared by health officials is simple but important. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it. Wash your hands often with soap and warm water, especially after your cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth – germs are spread this way. Try to avoid close contact with sick people. If you get sick with influenza, it is recommended that you stay home and limit your contact with others to keep from infecting them.
- 3. What steps have been taken by LBUSD to address the H1N1 health issue?**
LBUSD formed a task force in August to address the H1N1 concerns on several levels. Some of the strategies completed by this task force include training our custodial staff in cleaning methods with products suggested by health officials, provision of hand cleaning materials to staff and students at all schools and worksites, daily assessment of our absentee rates to determine any H1N1 outbreaks at the earliest possible time and participation in weekly meetings and communications with public health officials. Our task force meets at a minimum of one time every two weeks. The task force mission is to closely monitor the H1N1 dynamic nationwide as well as develop appropriate strategies in accordance with emerging facts in our District.
- 4. Is there a scenario in which a school might be closed for a period of time based upon H1N1 occurrences in that school?**
Based upon observation of the National landscape, it is possible that any public school in California might be forced to close for a period of time if the increase of students ill from H1N1 is extremely high. Our decision making protocol in this area would be to consult with the county health officers if our reported cases of H1N1 became significant. In such a case, it would be our intention to call an emergency Board of Education meeting to review the recommendation by the public health team on school closure and to make our decision in the context of the facts and recommendations by professional health officials in Orange County. It is our hope that we never reach this threshold, but we will act swiftly if we do.