



# The Northwest Catholic District School Board

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Mary-Catherine Kelly  
Director of Education, Secretary to the Board

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Parents/Guardians  
**FROM:** Mary-Catherine Kelly  
**SUBJECT:** Swine Flu

**DATE:** 30 April 2009

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Public health officials around the world are aware of the possibility of a wider pandemic, and on Monday the World Health Organization raised its alert level to Level 5. That does not indicate a pandemic, but is a clear signal to take this flu outbreak seriously.

Although NO cases of Swine Flu exist in Northwestern Ontario at this time, this disease is a fast-growing concern as widely reported in the media.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT to remember the basic precautions to take with any flu-like illness:

- wash your hands frequently and thoroughly
- try to cough or sneeze into your forearm instead of your hands
- visit a health care professional if you begin to exhibit symptoms of the illness
- and if you or your child have flu symptoms, please stay home

Please be assured that we continue to closely monitor developments and we will share updates as they become available.

Our priority is always and will continue to be the ongoing safety and well-being of our students, staff and community members.

Sincerely,  
**The Northwest Catholic District  
School Board**

Mary-Catherine Kelly  
Director of Education

MCK/dg