

November 19, 2009

Dear Princeton Day School Parents,

I want to share with you additional information on H1N1 and the Princeton Day School community.

As a service to our students and families, Nurse Carol Nicholas has worked to have two different agencies run clinics here at PDS. The good news is that we have vaccinated 422 students between these two clinics. Thus, almost half of the PDS student population has been vaccinated.

We assume, however, that demand still exists both for vaccinations and for PDS to again host a clinic. We know, for example, that children needing a booster vaccine must wait 21 days, which would be about December 8 for those vaccinated at PDS clinics. We hope that we can again help PDS families at that time.

Our ability to host another clinic depends on availability of vaccine. In our discussion with the Princeton Health Department about any upcoming clinic, the director indicated that vaccines for the state of New Jersey in general and Mercer County, in particular, were back ordered for a month. So, he doesn't expect to have large doses of vaccine available until mid-December.

PDS will work with the Princeton Health Department to coordinate another clinic and will keep you informed via email and the website.

In the interim, you may want to go to use the state's "[Find a Flu Shot](#)" website.

Meanwhile, the good news is that attendance at PDS, and throughout greater Mercer County schools, seems to have stabilized. In fact, our absenteeism is down and attendance is up. We hope that this trend continues.

I also want to take this opportunity to clarify a few issues that have come to my attention:

- PDS is just the venue and host for the clinics -- we are not running them.
- PDS is beholden to the agencies running the clinics and their ability to obtain vaccines, thus the change of date for this most recent clinic.
- The PDS survey of interest was neither a registration nor guarantee for receiving an appointment or a vaccine. The purpose of the survey was to gauge the level of demand so PDS could convey that interest to the administering agencies, who then determined whether it was worthwhile to have PDS host any clinics.

By hosting these clinics and continuing to follow health protocols, we are moving closer to our goal of keeping Princeton Day School students healthy.

Paul J. Stellato
Head of School