

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

May 19, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As you know, there has been a lot of media attention and public concern about a recent influenza outbreak and potential pandemic. The picture changes regularly and we wanted to let you know of our plans for summer camp and conference participants related to this issue, or any other infectious disease issue that was serious enough to require isolation or quarantine to protect participants. Right now, the current situation appears no more serious than seasonal influenza, so we are hoping for an uneventful summer season. We will take the following steps to assure that we help students prevent illness as much as possible, while still going ahead with summer programs:

- 1. Encourage good hygiene measures with all participants**, including regular hand washing, covering mouth and nose for coughs and sneezes, avoiding sharing of utensils and drinking containers, good nutrition, hydration, and adequate sleep. As parents, you can help us by reinforcing the importance of these habits.
- 2. Asking participants who become ill to let their leader know.**
- 3. Evaluating students who become ill.** If students are ill with symptoms that are suspicious for influenza or any other serious infectious disease, we will take them for evaluation by a health care professional, or if they live in the area, we will call you to come do so. For influenza, the symptoms that require evaluation are fever over 100 degrees and respiratory symptoms
- 4. If your student has influenza or any other serious infectious disease**, we will discuss with you the appropriate next steps, in terms of continuing with the program versus coming home. They will need to be kept away from other participants while they are ill, to protect others.



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We hope your son or daughter has a great experience here. We will do our best to make that happen, while at the same time keeping everyone as healthy as possible. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to work with your sons and daughters this summer.

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