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BRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Over the last week we have fewer children out due to “flu-like” illnesses. Attendance at both the high school and intermediate school are reported at normal levels. The elementary schools are reporting absences for “flu-like” illnesses that are slightly elevated, but are well below numbers that would concern us. The absence rate at Indian Neck is at normal levels.

We are pretty confident that we will continue to see H₁N₁ in our schools throughout the winter months. We will continue monitoring the situation through our daily surveillance. Should there be a major change, I will contact you.

East Shore Health Department held a successful H₁N₁ vaccination clinic yesterday for high risk individuals. Because the vaccine is still in short supply, we are not yet sure when we can provide a clinic for healthy school-aged children. The latest information, as of yesterday, is that we should anticipate those vaccine supplies by mid- to late-December. Once we receive the vaccine, we will set up a vaccination clinic.

Please continue your fine efforts with your children. Keeping them home if they have symptoms of illness and reinforcing good health practices. Also, please call the school when your child is absent, so that we have an accurate assessment of the level of flu in our population.

Sincerely,

Kathleen C. Halligan, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools