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Moraga Schools, SMC Remain Open After Swine Flu Cases Confirmed

Last week, Moraga School District Superintendent Rick Schafer announced the District's first confirmed case of H1N1 (Swine Flu) by a fifth grade Rheem Elementary School student. Four Saint Mary's students were also confirmed to have the virus by the Contra Costa Public Health Department. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicates that most U.S. cases are not severe at this time, and on May 5 changed its policy regarding school closures. Schafer spoke with the Contra Costa County health department, which stated that the Contra Costa Health Services, the State Department of Public Health and the CDC have been constantly monitoring the H1N1 Influenza outbreak, and "while Contra Costa Health Services will continue to closely monitor the situation, we have been advised by Contra Costa Health Services that our schools may remain open at this time," Schafer wrote. Saint Mary's students affected were advised to stay home for seven days, or for one day beyond the conclusion of symptoms, whichever is longer. For information on ways to prevent contracting or spreading the illness, you can visit the CDC Web site at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>. For H1N1 updates, you can call the Contra Costa Public Health Department hotline at (888) 856-0564.

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