Lynda J. Mitchell
Superintendent of Schools

Thomaston Public Schools
P.O. Box 166
Thomaston, CT 06787-0166
(860) 283-4796
Fax: (860) 283-6708
lmitchell@thomastonschools.org

November 3, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The purpose of this letter is to update you on the status of the Influenza A – H1N1 virus in Thomaston Schools. We have been focused on addressing the cases of students with flu-like symptoms. There are several important facts that we can share with you concerning flu surveillance, absenteeism, and illness.

Data from week ending October 30th, 2009:

Black Rock School:	9% of students were absent – enrollment 348 3% of absent students reported flu-like symptoms
Thomaston Center School:	4% of students were absent – enrollment 262 3% of students absent reported flu-like symptoms
Thomaston High School:	7% of students were absent – enrollment 601 Less than 1% of students were reported with flu-like symptoms

- We continue to maintain cleaning vigilance in all schools;
- School nurses are talking to all students who are ill, as well as to those students with high risk medical conditions;
- We continue our communication with the Torrington Area Health District, the State Department of Education, and the State Department of Public Health for guidance.

- Continued on reverse side -

If your child is experiencing a fever of 100 degrees or greater along with respiratory symptoms, then we are asking that they remain home for 7 days, according to CDC recommendations.

We will keep you informed concerning this active community transmission phase and are available to answer any questions or concerns that you may have. We want to thank you for following the guidelines that we have established in order to keep our children safe. If you have any questions, make certain to contact your building principal, the school nurse, or my office.

Sincerely,

Lynda Mitchell

Lynda Mitchell
Superintendent

LM:pmg