



NEWS RELEASE

DECEMBER 19, 2019 (Shakopee, MN) - The number of influenza-related illnesses (ILI) and symptoms among Shakopee Public Schools students and staff is improving. Compared to Tuesday, when the number of reported student absences due to ILI peaked, the latest report shows a decrease in five schools.

West Middle School, which reported 29.12% on Tuesday is now at 16.92%. Sun Path Elementary reported 19.76% on Tuesday and is now reporting 15.71%.

School districts are required to contact the Minnesota Department of Health when 5% of the student body is absent and reporting "influenza-like illnesses", or ILI. The MDH expects school district reporting of ILI to include the following: influenza, influenza-like symptoms, and all other unspecified illnesses.

"We take the health and safety of our students and staff very seriously and want to do everything we can to limit the spread of illness," said Superintendent Mike Redmond. "The custodial team is wiping down common areas such as door handles, drinking fountains, and other hard surfaces, and staff members are assisting in their particular classrooms."

The below chart represents a breakdown of ILI student absences being reported as of 11:30 a.m. Thursday, December 19. The chart also shows a comparison to the student absences reported at the same time on December 17 and December 18.

As noted above, we will continue to monitor the number of illnesses reported per building and share updates through the rest of the week. If parents and guardians are calling in their student as absent and ill, they are encouraged to provide specific information and medical diagnoses, if possible.

Reported Influenza-like Illnesses (ILI)

School	Tuesday, December 17 11:30AM UPDATE	Wednesday, December 18 11:30AM UPDATE	Thursday, December 19 11:30AM UPDATE
West Middle School	29.12%	22.34%	16.92%
Sun Path Elementary School	19.76%	18.58%	15.71%
Sweeney Elementary School	8.12%	10.23%	11.28%
East Middle School	6.86%	7.94%	8.34%
Red Oak Elementary School	5.85%	6.58%	1.46%
Jackson Elementary	4.76%	4.76%	4.51%
Eagle Creek Elementary	4.67%	4.40%	4.93%
Shakopee High School	3.34%	4.16%	3.82%
Tokata Learning Center	3.19%	2.13%	0%

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