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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCHOOLS/CLUB DISMISSAL DUE TO H1N1 FLU

San Bernardino. Clement Middle School in Redlands, Boys & Girls Clubs of Redlands, and Cole Elementary School in San Bernardino were dismissed due to probable cases of H1N1 Flu. The final laboratory results have not been confirmed by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Confirmation of the test will possibly be available by late next week. The three children from these schools and from the Boys & Girls Clubs in Redlands are recovering at home and none of the other family members have become ill.

San Bernardino County Public Health Officer, Maxwell Ohikhuare, M.D., recommended the dismissal to contain the spread of H1N1 flu infection. Officials for the San Bernardino County Superintendents of Schools, School Districts, principals of the two schools and Public Health staff discussed the recommendations and concurred that the dismissals of the schools is advisable. In addition the Boys & Girls Clubs of Redlands will temporarily close the Hansberger Clubhouse and the Brockton site as a precaution effective May 2, 2009. The Health Department staff and Club officials are in ongoing communication.

The two schools and the Boys & Girls Clubs will reopen on May 11, 2009 based on the recommendations from CDC and Public Health Officials. People with H1N1 Influenza should be considered potentially contagious as long as they are symptomatic and possibly for up to 7 days following the onset of the illness.

San Bernardino County Public Department continues to monitor surveillance for **all confirmed and probable cases** and will provide more information to the public when available. "The County Health Department's priority is to contain this virus and reduce further infection" stated Health Officer Maxwell Ohikhuare, M.D., with the Department of Public Health.

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Confirmed Cases-There has been a confirmed case of H1N1 Influenza on the Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Base in the County. "No other confirmed cases of this virus have been identified in San Bernardino County at this time," stated Health Officer Maxwell Ohikhuare, M.D., with the Department of Public Health. He stated that "the illness has been a mild form and universal precautions are the best way to avoid infection."

Probable Cases - In addition to the **three probable cases reported today**, one probable case was reported on April 29, 2009, at Cole Elementary School and that child has recovered.

H1N1 Flu Facts

Symptoms of H1N1 Flu are similar to common seasonal flu, including fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills, vomiting, diarrhea and fatigue.

Reduce the spread of H1N1 Flu

Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.

Wash your hands often with soap and water.

If you are sick, stay home and stay away from others to reduce flu transmission.

Public Health in Action to Reduce the Spread of H1N1 Flu

- Public Health is actively monitoring the spread of H1N1 Flu.
- Public Health is providing public information and working in conjunction with various health and community agencies to reduce the spread of H1N1 Flu.
- Public Health is routinely communicating with County authorities, the California Department of Public Health and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to address the status of the confirmed and probable cases.

For more details on H1N1 Influenza virus, call the Department of Public Health at 1 (800) 722-4794 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00PM Monday through Friday or you can also access the California Department of Public Health website at www.cdph.ca.gov or call the 24 hour hotline at 1-888-865-0564. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's web page is <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>.

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