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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HEALTH OFFICIALS RECEIVE RESULTS FROM INFLUENZA TEST
RECOMMEND SCHOOL DISMISSAL OF BROWNS VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Within the hour, Solano Public Health officials received test results from the California Department of Public Health Laboratory, that the first-grader who attended Browns Valley Elementary School who died Sunday after showing flu-like symptoms, tested positive for novel H1N1/Swine Flu. The final cause of death is still under investigation and will be determined by the Sheriff/Coroner.

“We are extremely saddened and our thoughts go out to the friends and family of this child,” said Solano Public Health Officer, Ronald W. Chapman, MD, MPH.

Today, the school’s absenteeism rate is 25%. It is unknown how many students are being kept out of school due to illness or parental concern.

“To interrupt transmission of the novel H1N1 virus, I am recommending school dismissal at Browns Valley Elementary School effective tomorrow, Friday, October 23 through Monday, October 26, with school resuming on Tuesday, October 27,” explained Dr. Chapman.

Children from Browns Valley Elementary School should stay at home and not congregate in public places, such as malls, churches, and small social gatherings.

Everyone can help prevent the spread of H1N1 by:

- Getting seasonal and H1N1 vaccines as soon as they are available in your area;
- Washing hands regularly with soap and water;
- Coughing or sneezing into sleeve or elbow;
- If you have flu-like symptoms, staying home from school or work for at least 24 hours after fever has ended without taking fever reducing medications; and

- more -

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- Contacting your health care provider if you or a family member has flu-like symptoms, and are experiencing any complications such as trouble breathing, excessive vomiting, or diarrhea.

For more information about the novel H1N1 virus in Solano County, visit www.solanocounty.com/H1N1, www.flu.gov, www.cdc.gov or www.cdph.ca.gov.

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