



***SAMPLE
HEALTH OFFICER DECLARATION
DISMISSING STUDENTS***

To School Officials:

The health department in coordination with the California Department of Public Health is ordering the dismissal of all students immediately due to the pandemic flu epidemic in our community. If you have any questions regarding this declaration, please call Contra Costa Health Services Communicable Disease Program at 925-313-6740.

Because the virus is spread easily from person-to-person, it is no longer safe for children to attend class. Colleges, day care centers and preschools also have been ordered to dismiss students and children.

Please inform your students' parents and guardians immediately that students may be dismissed for an extended period of time (for example, up to 6 weeks).

The purpose of student dismissal is to decrease contact among children to decrease their risk of getting sick and to limit the spread of infection.

The health department will keep school officials updated as the situation changes. A press release is being issued to inform the public of this declaration.

William B. Walker, MD
Health Services Director and Health Officer