

The SJCSD is working closely with the Department of Health and local Anastasia Mosquito Control, Division of St. Johns County under the guidelines of the CDC with regard to the Zika virus. Interim guidance has been developed by the CDC for district and school administrators in the planning of school-related activities, recommended actions, and appropriate policies for educating students and staff members for the continuation of school operations.

The district will be working with Mosquito Control through an integrated vector management plan for avoiding Zika virus infections on school campuses. Mosquito control measures on school grounds will focus on identifying and removing sources of standing water that can serve as mosquito breeding sites. Common sources on school grounds such as buckets, trash cans, planters, playground equipment, and spaces beneath modular structures will be regularly monitored by onsite Maintenance Managers. Measures to ensure these do not become mosquito breeding areas will include regular cleaning, turning over, tightly covering, or completely removing (if appropriate) these sources. The District will follow the direction of Anastasia Mosquito Control should insecticide spraying be indicated.

The District will also be utilizing the Department of Health's "Spill the water" educational materials for students K-12 in the prevention of mosquito breeding.

At this point, St. Johns County schools will not be altering outdoor activities such as recess and PE, but are reviewing District policies regarding student possession and application of insect repellent. Just like with sunscreen, we encourage parents to apply bug repellent to their children before school. Parents and staff members will be notified of any changes in policy and information will be accessible through the District website. The website will also include the CDC recommendations for parents talking to children about Zika.

Students presenting to the school clinic with signs and symptoms of any communicable illness will be evaluated by the school nurse and referred to their Pediatrician for diagnosis and follow up. Should the condition be a reportable disease/condition, the school nurse will work directly with Epidemiology at the local Department of Health.