

A Letter from the Hollywood School Health Office



May 11, 2010

Dear Parents,

This letter is to inform you that a student at Hollywood School has been diagnosed with a Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) related infection. The child is currently being treated for MRSA and will not return to school until clearance is received from the family doctor. We have no other known cases of MRSA in the school.

The classroom that this child attends, as well as all classrooms and shared/common areas, are thoroughly cleaned and sanitized daily by the custodial staff. All hard surfaces including (but not limited to) desks, tables, counter tops, doorknobs, light switches, stair railings, drinking fountains, and sink/toilet handles are sanitized with a bleach-based solution. In addition to these measures, maintenance staff arrived at Hollywood to assist our custodian in additional cleaning of the school with hospital-grade disinfectant wipes.

It is important to note that measures to minimize the spread of MRSA and other infections/illnesses in the building are being taken, such as:

- Staff and students have been reminded about proper hand washing techniques with the use of warm soapy water, or with hand sanitizer with a 60% alcohol base that is provided in each classroom.
- Lunch room supervisors ensure that students are using the hand sanitizer before eating their lunch.
- Students with cuts or wounds will keep a covering on during the school day, and any exposed wounds will be directed to the nurse for proper cleaning and bandaging.
- Students are advised not to share personal items such as napkins or Kleenex.

The safety of our students and staff is our number one priority. We are exercising extreme caution in dealing with this situation. We will continue to consult with public health officials and with the physician attending to this student.

The Illinois Department of Public Health and the Center for Disease Control have additional resources online at:

- MRSA Health Beat, Illinois Department of Public Health
<http://www.idph.state.il.us/public/hb/hbmrna.htm>
- Community-Associated MRSA information
http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa_ca_public.html

Please take time to read this information. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Miss Keller at 708-485-7630.

Sincerely,

Miss Mindy Keller
Principal

Mrs. Judy Dalton
School Nurse