



MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

“Building the Foundation for Excellence”

October 22, 2007

Dear Parents & Guardians:

MRSA (Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus) is a significant concern for parents and school officials as recent outbreaks have occurred throughout our state and region. As always, standard practices for good hygiene are the best prevention and medical care is effective in almost all cases.

The district is following all Department of Health guidelines for best practices for preventing the MRSA disease from infecting the students and staff of your child's school. Every attempt to prevent transmission of MRSA is being made throughout the Marple Newtown School District. We are providing some basic guidelines regarding MRSA.

- Keep your hands clean by washing thoroughly with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Keep cuts and scrapes clean and covered with a bandage until healed.
- Avoid contact with other people's wounds or bandages.
- Avoid sharing personal items such as towels, clothing, or razors.

For additional guidelines and resources, please visit our website and other links below.

The Marple Newtown School District nurses have received information and training about MRSA. All staff and students are being reminded to practice good hygiene, and staff members are receiving information about the infection so they can be vigilant and watch for signs of it. Our custodial staff is using increased diligence in cleaning bathrooms, sinks, wrestling mats and other athletic equipment, as well as locker rooms and showers. We believe we are taking all the necessary precautions, and hope that by notifying parents about the issue, we will reinforce the importance of good hygiene at home, as well as in our buildings.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your school principal and/or school nurse. If your child is diagnosed with MRSA, please notify the school principal and/or school nurse immediately. We will require a physician's note to allow your child to return to school.

Thank you for your time and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Merle Horowitz
Superintendent

<http://www.mnsd.net>

<http://www.dsf.health.state.pa.us/health/cwp/view.asp?a=178&q=248839>

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa_ca_public.html#8#8