



Warren Township Schools

Shining Brighter Every Day

September 22, 2016

Dear Parents:

Last week, middle school parents were informed about two cases of coxsackie virus that were reported at Warren Middle School. Both students are fully recovered and back in class. Upon learning of these suspected cases, the district elevated its cleaning procedures proactively.

In light of the recent number of cases reported in various high schools in New Jersey, the district feels that it is important to be proactive and clean our locker rooms and physical education equipment more extensively than usual to ensure that we are doing everything in our power to prevent any other occurrences.

On Friday, September 23, all middle school students will be asked to bring their physical education clothes and any other equipment they have in their physical education lockers home so that we can fully clean over the weekend. This is purely precautionary; we have no reason to believe that there is an issue with these areas nor do we know of any other cases in the school.

Out of an abundance of caution, we ask you to monitor your children for any signs and symptoms which may include: fever, headache, muscle aches, sore throat, abdominal discomfort, nausea, and the hallmark painful red blisters in the throat, on the tongue, gums, hard palate, inside of the cheeks, and/or palms of the hands and soles of the feet.

Most cases cause mild flu-like symptoms and go away without treatment.

There is no cause for alarm or panic. This information is being shared to clarify the reason why students are being asked to bring home their physical education belongings and to remind students and ourselves to wash our hands. Handwashing is the best prevention of contracting many illnesses, including coxsackie virus.

Attached you will find additional details about the virus provided by the New Jersey Department of Health. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to the school nurse for additional information.

Respectfully,

Matthew A. Mingle

Matthew A. Mingle, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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