



HOPKINTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
School Administrative Unit 66

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May 10, 2009

Dear parent/guardian,

I am writing to you this evening to share with you some important information. We learned this morning that a member of our Middle/High school community has been diagnosed with a case of bacterial meningitis. This individual has received treatment and is reportedly doing well. I spoke extensively today with the Department of Public Health, the public health nurse, and Commissioner of Education. The department of public health has indicated to me that there is no reason to believe that there is any public health risk to our faculty or students.

According to the public health officials, meningitis is spread through close contact (ie kissing, sharing drinks, etc) with the infected individual. It is also spread by sharing cooking utensils, smoking materials, etc. The public health nurse indicated to me that those individuals who have had close contact with the person have been identified and notified in order to begin a course of antibiotics. I have been advised that no special precautions are necessary. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office, although with confidentiality issues, I am limited in what I can share. I would encourage you to look at the Department of Public Health website at <http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/DHHS/CDCS/meningitis.htm> for further information on meningitis specifically.

I am in the process of trying to put together a public forum for parents to take place Monday or Tuesday evening. I will send an additional email once I confirm the details Monday morning.

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