

MEDORA COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Parents/Guardians

DATE: January 21, 2008

SUBJECT: MRSA/Staph
Infections

FROM: Robert M. Mahan
Interim Superintendent

Recently media sources have made the public fully aware of the spread of MRSA/staph infections in hospitals and other community centers such as schools.

Preventing the spread of MRSA in a community center requires a cooperative effort between the home and school.

In the home, parents must have an awareness in identifying a MRSA infection on their child. Most MRSA infections are skin infections that produce the following signs and symptoms:

- boils (pus-filled infection of hair follicles)
- abscesses (collection of pus in under the skin)
- sty (infection of the eyelid gland)
- carbuncles (infection larger than abscesses with openings in the skin)
- impetigo (a skin infection with pus-filled blisters)

Additionally, parents must strongly encourage their children to wash their hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based (62%) hand sanitizer; refuse to share personal items with others; take baths or showers often using soap; change clothes regularly; and cover completely cuts and sores. If parents detect a skin infection on their child that displays the signs and symptoms listed above, then they should seek the assistance of a health care provider.

In the Medora School, matrons and custodians will continue daily to sanitize student used sections of the building with a bleach based solution. Additionally, school employees will provide time and supplies for students to wash and sanitize their hands during the school day. Finally, school employees will remain vigilant in identifying students with skin infections displaying signs and symptoms listed above and report suspicious findings to parents.

Again, a cooperative effort between home and school can contribute greatly to preventing the spread of this infection in our community and school.

Please do not hesitate to contact school officials if you have questions and/or concerns related to MRSA.