



MASSAPEQUA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

4925 MERRICK ROAD

MASSAPEQUA, NEW YORK 11758

(516) 308-5000 FAX (516) 308-5009

www.msdk12.ny.us

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ROBERT J. SCHILLING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

September 20, 2010

Dear Parents of Students and Staff:

A student in our District has been hospitalized with viral (not bacterial) meningitis. We received this information late Saturday evening and immediately commenced communication with the family and the Nassau County Department of Health. The signs and symptoms of viral meningitis may include fever, headache, stiff neck and fatigue. A number of viruses are capable of causing viral meningitis, but the majority of people exposed to these viruses experience mild or no symptoms. Most people are exposed to the viruses at some time in their lives, but few actually develop meningitis. Since most cases are due to enteroviruses that may be passed in the stool, all students and staff should be instructed to thoroughly wash their hands before eating and after toileting. Hand washing is the single most effective way to prevent the transmission of viruses; no specific medicines or antibiotics are used to treat viral meningitis.

The Nassau County Department of Health has provided us with the attached fact sheet, which describes the cause, symptoms, and other known facts about the disease. If you have any concerns or questions you may contact your doctor. If your child develops any of the symptoms of viral meningitis, please contact your physician.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours truly,

Charles V. Sulc

Charles V. Sulc
Superintendent of Schools

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