



Birdville Independent School District

6125 East Belknap • Haltom City, Texas 76117-4296 • 817-547-5700 • Fax 817-838-7261 • www.birdville.k12.tx.us

Stephen F. Waddell, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As you may be aware, the media has increased reports on staph infections across the country. Staph infections (Staphylococcal) can result from minor skin breaks. Staph infections are associated with diseases of the skin, bones and joints, pneumonia, and endocarditis.

Staph infection is caused by a bacterium that is transmitted through air droplets or by skin-to-skin contact. People can carry this bacterium in their noses and on their skin. Spread of this disease occurs through contact with a contaminated surface, either skin or inanimate object. The incubation period is 1-10 days from the time a person is exposed to the bacteria until symptoms occur. Signs and symptoms of a Staph infection include: drainage involving pus, red streaks from the infected area, redness, soreness, sore throat (possible), and fever (possible).

Most mild to moderate Staph infections can be treated with 7 to 10 days of oral antibiotics. Persons with drainage involving pus should be kept out of school for **48 hours** after beginning antibiotics **and** they should not return until the active drainage has stopped.

Help us eliminate this infection by making sure that your child washes their hands regularly, bathes daily, wears clean clothes, and washes open wounds with soap and water as soon as possible. It will take students, parents and staff to eliminate this infection. Please be assured that BISD is cleaning the equipment judiciously and will partner with you in any way that we can to protect your children.

The district will maintain information pertaining to Staph on the district Web site. The link is http://www.birdville.k12.tx.us/instruction/ss_web/special_services/health_services.html. The link to health services can also be found on the parents Web page. Additional information will be sent home based on district procedures.

If you have any questions regarding this infection, contact your school nurse or Judy Beverly, BISD's coordinator of health services at judy_beverly@birdville.k12.tx.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judith A. Beverly". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Judith A. Beverly
Coordinator of Health Services