



**CONRAD WEISER AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT**
www.conradweiser.org

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Dear parent:

The news media has been quick to report the existence of MRSA (methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus) in schools. MRSA is a type of staph infection that is resistant to the antibiotics used to treat it and may cause more serious health problems. As of this date, there have been no confirmed cases of MRSA in the Conrad Weiser Area School District.

Custodians have been working diligently to clean all areas of all of our schools using a one-step disinfectant, germicidal detergent, and deodorant. This is the same sanitizer used in hospitals and health care facilities.

Bacteria called staphylococcus aureus, also referred to as "staph," is normally carried on the skin and in the nose of healthy people. Sometimes staph can cause an infection, however. Most of these skin infections are minor (such as pimples or boils) and can be treated with antibiotics.

You can help to prevent the spread of MRSA by doing the following:

1. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.
2. Keep cuts and scrapes clean and covered with a bandage until they are healed.
3. Avoid contact with other people's wounds and bandages.
4. Avoid sharing personal items such as towels, razors, clothing, and athletic equipment.
5. See the school nurse or your family physician if you have a cut, pimple, or boil that is red, swollen, painful or has pus or drainage.

For more information about MRSA, visit the Pennsylvania Department of Health's website www.health.state.pa.us, or call 1-877-PA-Health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Dennis T. Roule'.

Dennis T. Roule
Assistant Superintendent