



February 28, 2017

Dr. Gary Cohn, Superintendent
Everett Public Schools

Dear Superintendent Cohn:

Cases of mumps have been confirmed among students attending Everett High School and Hawthorne Elementary School. Mumps is a highly infectious disease that can cause serious complications. Vaccination is the most effective strategy to prevent the spread of mumps.

Although the majority of students in Washington State (and in the Everett School District) have been vaccinated against mumps, some students and staff have not been vaccinated. These students and staff are at high risk to contract and spread mumps, placing others at risk.

To protect all students and staff, and to prevent the spread of mumps to the rest of the community, students and staff who have not been vaccinated against mumps should be excluded from school until they have been vaccinated, or until the 26th day following the onset of parotitis (swelling of the parotid glands) of the last case of mumps in a school.

The Health Officer for Snohomish County has the authority to require such exclusion in order to protect the public (RCW 70.24.070, WAC 246-101-505, WAC 246-100-036).

For more information, please look at the Washington State Department of Health Toolkit for Schools at:
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/348-591MumpsOutbreakToolkitforSchools.pdf>

Thank you for your help keeping Snohomish County healthy.

Sincerely,

Gary Goldbaum, MD, MPH
Health Officer and Director