

Everett High School "School of Champions"

Everett Public Schools 2416 Colby Ave. Everett, WA 98201 (425) 385-4400 www.everett.k12.wa.us/everetthigh

Mission

To inspire, educate and prepare every student to be career and college ready.

Lance BallaPrincipal

Mitch Entler Assistant Principal

Doug Plucker Assistant Principal Athletic Director

Michele Waddel Assistant Principal

February 28, 2017

Dear Everett High School Families:

We have received notification from the Snohomish County Health Department that a case of mumps has been confirmed at our school. Information about mumps was shared with families districtwide in January, and the district developed a process for identifying and communicating with families of unimmunized students in the event of a confirmed case being reported in Everett Public Schools.

As part of this process, any student who is not immunized against mumps will be excluded from school for 26 days. Now that a case has been confirmed at our school, the families of students who are not immunized have been notified directly that their child is being excluded from school.

Mumps symptoms typically include fever, headache, muscle aches, tiredness, and loss of appetite. Its most distinctive symptom is swelling of the cheeks, neck or jaw. Only a health care provider can diagnose and test for mumps. *Please contact your child's health care provider if your child develops symptoms.*

Please see the attached letter from Gary Goldbaum, Health Officer and Director, Snohomish Health District, and learn more about mumps at the following websites:

Washington Department of Health

 $\underline{http://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/Illness and Disease/Mumps/MumpsOutbreak}$

Center for Disease Control

Mumps vaccination: https://www.cdc.gov/mumps/vaccination.html

MMR vaccine – what everyone should know:

https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/mmr/public/index.html

Please contact Communications at 425-385-4040 if you need additional assistance.

Sincerely,

Lance Balla Principal

Communicable Disease Surveillance & Response

February 28, 2017

Everett High School 2416 Colby Ave. Everett, WA 98201

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Your child may have been exposed to mumps while attending Everett High School. Mumps is a highly infectious disease that can cause serious complications. Vaccination is the most effective strategy to prevent the spread of mumps.

Snohomish Health District investigates reported cases of mumps and works to prevent further illness spread. Symptoms of mumps can occur up to 25 days after exposure to the illness. Watch for symptoms up to March 14, 2017.

Keep your child home from school and contact your health care provider if your child develops the following symptoms:

- Neck or jaw swelling, one or both sides
- Swelling of one or both testicle in males who have reached puberty

If your child develops symptoms please take this letter with you to your health care provider visit. It is important to call the health care provider to arrange an exam in an isolation room and that your healthcare provider tests your child if mumps is suspected.

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 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.

Thank you for your help keeping Snohomish County healthy.

Sincerely,

Gary Goldbum, MD, MPH Health Officer and Director