Ness City USD No. 303

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Ness City, Kansas 67560

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Derek Reinhardt, Superintendent/PreK-6 Principal

Tom Flax, 7-12 Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Measles cases are spreading to more counties in Kansas. Due to the high contagious aspect of measles and KDHEs recommendations, any susceptible contact that is not age appropriately/school required vaccinated within 72 hours of first exposure to an infectious measles case is required to be excluded from attending school for 21 days following the last exposure to an infectious case. Exposure is defined as direct contact with a person infectious for measles and /or sharing same confined airspace with a person infectious for measles, including up to two hours after the infectious person leaves. A susceptible contact is one that does **NOT** have documentation of receiving the measles-containing vaccine (MMR), laboratory evidence of immunity, or born before 1957.

**What does this mean?**

Due to frequent student transitioning and shared spaces, if there is a confirmed case of measles at our school, any student not appropriately vaccinated would be excluded from school for 21 days following the last exposure to an infectious case.

**How is measles spread?**

Measles is spread by airborne droplets (coughing, sneezing, and talking, etc.) or direct contact with nasopharyngeal secretions (touching wet surface after coughing or sneezing).

The signs and symptoms of measles include:

* High fever, cough, running nose, and red watery eyes
* 3-5 days later a red blotchy rash, first appearing on the head then spreading downward to neck, trunk, arms, legs and feet
* 2-3 days after symptoms begin tiny white spots may appear on the inside of the mouth

Please refer to page 41 of the student-parent handbook or the Kansas Classroom Handbook of Communicable diseases, page 35, for more information. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact the school or school nurse!

<https://www.kdhe.ks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/13715/Kansas-Classroom-Handbook-of-Communicable-Diseases-PDF?bidId>

Thank you!