



Dear families,

I have been asked to share this district-wide message with you.

In line with most Metro districts, White Bear Lake Area Schools has updated our head lice procedures based on research and recommendations from the Center for Disease Control, American Academy of Pediatrics, and National Association of School Nurses. Research has shown:

- Lice are not more likely to spread at school than other places kids are together
- Lice do not carry or spread disease

To prevent lice, we recommend:

- Encourage your child to avoid head to head contact with others
- Check your child's head routinely (at least once a month)
- If one person in the home has head lice, everyone in the home should be checked

When considering the lack of impact lice has on spreading to other children, health care associations are alerting schools to the unintended consequences of absenteeism due to lice concerns; therefore, White Bear Lake Area Schools will be implementing the following:

- If your child has head lice you will be notified confidentially
- Your child will not be excluded from school due to nits
- If live bugs are found, the school nurse will determine the best course of action for a treatment plan with the parent
- Treatment should be initiated upon arrival home from school
- Classroom letters will not be sent home
- Mass screenings will not be done

For more information, please call your School Nurse or view this handout from Hennepin County Medical Center:

<http://www.hennepin.us/~media/hennepinus/residents/health-medical/infectious-diseases-fact-sheets/head-lice-parents.pdf?la=en>