

Lake Fenton Community Schools

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Dear Lake Fenton Community Schools Families,

In an effort to make sure our families are informed of potential health safety concerns throughout our state, I am providing you with the following information regarding the mosquito-borne virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), and to make you aware of the precautionary steps to take to help keep our students (and you) safe.

Earlier this week, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued a Press Release indicating that there are now seven (7) confirmed human cases of EEE in Michigan. Although there are no confirmed human cases of EEE in Genesee County to date, there has been a confirmed case of a deer infected with EEE in Genesee County. As a result of this information, we would like to share precautionary measures to avoid situations and areas in which children are more likely to attract mosquito bites.

These measures are posted by MDHHS:

- Apply insect repellents that contain the active ingredient DEET, or other U.S. Environmental Protection Agency-registered product to exposed skin or clothing, and always follow the manufacturer's directions for use.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors. Apply insect repellent to clothing to help prevent bites.
- Maintain window and door screening to help keep mosquitoes outside.
- Empty water from mosquito breeding sites around the home, such as buckets, unused kiddie pools, old tires or similar sites where mosquitoes may lay eggs.
- Use nets and/or fans over outdoor eating areas.

In addition, we are taking the following steps

- Making arrangements to have the perimeter of our properties sprayed.
- Reviewing upcoming outdoor field trips.
- Adjusting co-curricular and extra-curricular outdoor activities for our youngest participants as necessary.

According to MDHHS, "signs of EEE include the sudden onset of fever, chills, body and joint aches which can progress to severe encephalitis, resulting in headache, disorientation, tremors, seizures and paralysis." MDHHS suggests that anyone experiencing these symptoms should visit their physician's office.

Additional information may be found at The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidance using this link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/easternequineencephalitis/gen/pre.html>.

Lake Fenton Community Schools has and will continue to take the concern of Eastern Equine Encephalitis very seriously and will actively monitor this situation, consider guidance and communication from both the state and the county and will communicate them to you and any changes to our scheduled events if deemed necessary.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Julie Williams

Julie Williams
Superintendent
Lake Fenton Community Schools

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