

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This is a reminder about MRSA (methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*). While MRSA can become a serious issue, with the proper treatment and precautions it can be controlled easily. Our custodial staff has been trained in MRSA precautions. The buildings are continually cleaned and treated with a MRSA rated disinfectant.

Here are a few medical facts about MRSA from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention):

1. Keep your hands clean by washing thoroughly with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Hand washing is the single most effective way to prevent the spread of these bacteria and other infectious illnesses.
2. Keep cuts and scrapes clean and covered with a bandage until healed.
3. Avoid contact with other people's wounds or bandages.
4. Avoid sharing personal items such as towels or razors.
5. These bacteria are in every school in the country and will be increasingly common.
6. CA-MRSA (community acquired methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*) is transmitted person to person outside a medical care facility. The widespread use of disinfectants in schools is not felt to be a major factor in preventing its spread. The closing of a school is not needed to disinfect the whole school building.
7. Children can go to school with the appropriate documentation by medical personnel indicating they may attend school as long as the lesions are appropriately covered to prevent spread by contact and they have the ability to use good sanitary practices.

Further information can be found on the CDC website at  
<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/MRSainSchools/>