

Exposure Date: January 3, 2012

Dear Parents,

A case of head lice has been found in at our school in a classroom.

Head lice can easily be transferred from child to child and can spread very quickly. **YOU SHOULD CAREFULLY CHECK YOUR CHILD'S HAIR**, especially around the ears and nape of the neck for evidence of infestation.

Pediculosis, commonly known as head lice, has become a commonplace occurrence in public and private schools throughout California over the past several years. Head lice **DO NOT JUMP OR FLY**, but can quickly walk from one head to another when they are brought into contact. Try to convince children to avoid these contacts, (sure easy to say) and also to avoid the sharing of personal items, ie. brushes, combs, hats, walkman head gear, and sports gear. **Head lice do not come from schools - they are brought there by children.**

Treatment includes shampooing with a stripping type shampoo like Prell, followed by a lice cream rinse like Nix found in any drug store. Towel dry hair, **DO NOT USE A HAIR DRYER**, and then comb with a metal lice comb, tiny sections at a time. Again do not blow dry, and for the next week to 10 days, **DO NOT** use conditioners, conditioning shampoos, mousse, or hair sprays. All bed linens and clothing that might offer safe havens for these unwelcome lice and/or nits should also be thoroughly cleaned.

Circumstances may arise where 2 or 3 students in the same class may be infested. When such occasions arise, we may choose to check all the students in the class in order to keep it under control.

Students found to have head lice **MAY NOT RETURN TO SCHOOL UNLESS HAIR HAS BEEN TREATED WITH LICE SHAMPOO AND ALL THE NITS (EGGS) ARE REMOVED FROM THE HAIR. STUDENTS MUST BE CHECKED BY OFFICE PERSONNEL BEFORE RETURNING TO THEIR CLASSROOM.**

Please contact the office if you have any questions. If you need additional information you can go to several web sites: [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/headlice/](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/headlice/) (Center for Disease Control) [www.headlice.org](http://www.headlice.org) (National Pediculosis Association, INC.)