



Recent news reports have focused on a “super bug” infection that is resistant to antibiotic treatment. The infection is called Community Associated Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus or **CA-MRSA**.

Staphylococcus aureus, often called “staph” are bacteria commonly carried on the skin or in the nose of healthy people. This bacterium is the most common cause of skin infections. Sometimes these infections require antibiotic treatment. CA-MRSA is a type of staph that is harder to treat because it is resistant to some antibiotics. CA-MRSA has been linked to serious infections –even fatal illnesses. CA-MRSA is spread most frequently by skin-to-skin contact.

Longview School District has been advised by the local health department about CA-MRSA. These health experts recommend the following to help prevent infections:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and warm water
- Do not share personal items such as razors or towels
- Wash any cut or scrape with soap and water
- Keep all cuts or scrapes clean and covered with bandages
- Use a recommended solution to properly clean sports equipment and other shared items before and after use

We have adopted the above recommendations and are taking actions to help provide a safe environment for students and staff members. Please encourage your family members to develop these healthy habits.