

MRSA Information for Parents

- CA-MRSA (Community Assisted - Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus-aureus) is a staph infection that is resistant to the beta lactam antibiotics, i.e., methicillin, oxacillin, penicillin and amoxicillin, but is readily treatable with alternative antibiotics.
- Students who participate in contact sports have greater potential for MRSA due to increased risk for skin lesions and skin-to-skin contact during practice and games. National Athletic Trainers' Association guidelines, (create link –guidelines attached).
- Take precautions with any skin infection that is not healing. Please inform trainers, coaches and school nurses and seek further medical attention.
- Handwashing and covering any open wound with a bandage are the best precautions.
- GBN(S) custodial staff is taking extra cleaning precautions and is using cleaning products known to kill MRSA bacteria. Hard surfaces and areas that are known to be traditional sources of bacteria are disinfected on a regular basis. For further information about MRSA prevention:
 - <http://www.cookcountypublichealth.org>
 - MRSA Health Beat. Illinois Dept. of Public Health
<http://www.idph.state.il.us/public/hb/hbmrna.htm>
 - CA-MRSA Information for the Public, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa_ca_public.html