

February 7, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian:

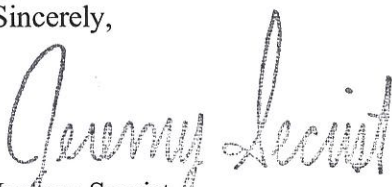
This letter is to inform you that there are four cases of chickenpox (also called varicella) being reported at Lexington High School and Junior High. Chickenpox is a very contagious disease caused by the varicella zoster virus. It causes a blister-like rash, itching, tiredness, and fever lasting an average of 4-6 days. Most children recover without any problems.


Chickenpox is spread from person-to-person through the air from an infected person's coughing, sneezing or by direct contact with the blisters. A person with chickenpox can spread the disease one to two days before they get the rash, until all their blisters have formed scabs. It takes from 10-21 days after exposure to a person with chickenpox for a person to develop chickenpox.

If your child develops any symptoms of chickenpox, contact your child's pediatrician or your local health department to discuss care. Please call ahead if you are planning to visit any type of healthcare facility. If your child is diagnosed with chickenpox, you should notify the school nurse of the diagnosis. Do not allow your child to attend school, day care, work, parties and/or other gatherings until all the blisters become crusted (about 4-6 days after rash appears) or until no new lesions appear within a 24-hour period.

If you or anyone in your household has a weakened immune system or is pregnant and has never had chickenpox or the vaccine, talk to your doctor immediately.

Sincerely,


Jeremy Secrist
Superintendent


Paula Smith
Director of Nursing