



SYRACUSE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jaime Alicea, Superintendent of Schools

Henninger High School

Brian D. Kavanagh, Principal

December 8, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter is to inform you that the Onondaga County Health Department is investigating a case of mumps at our school. The individual being investigated is not currently at Henninger but it is still important that we notify our families.

Mumps is a contagious disease caused by a virus. After infection with the virus a person develops symptoms anywhere from 12 to 25 days later (average 16-18 days). Please monitor your child for any signs or symptoms of mumps through December 26, 2017.

Symptoms of Mumps include:

- swelling of the salivary glands (puffy cheeks or swollen jaw)
- low-grade fever
- headache
- muscle aches, tiredness
- and loss of appetite

If your child develops any symptoms you should immediately notify your health care provider, our school nurse, as well as the Onondaga County Health Department.

Symptoms tend to decrease after one week and usually resolve after 10 days. Complications in males may include tender, swollen testicles. Females may develop inflamed ovaries and breast tissue. Other complications include deafness, meningitis, and encephalitis.

Mumps spreads through saliva or mucous from the mouth, nose, or throat. An infected person can spread the virus by coughing, sneezing, talking, sharing items, such as cups or eating utensils with others, and touching objects or surfaces with unwashed hands that are then touched by others.

The MMR vaccine is safe and effective and is the best protection against mumps. Two doses of MMR vaccine is 88 percent effective in preventing mumps although fully vaccinated individuals can develop mumps. This has been seen when there is close, prolonged contact with a person with mumps.

1. If your child develops swollen and tender salivary glands under the ears on one or both sides:

