

☞ Washington Township School District ☞  
“*Making a Difference*”

Brass Castle School  
16 Castle St.  
Washington, NJ 07882  
908-689-1188  
Jessica Garcia, *Principal*

District Central Office  
Old Schoolhouse  
One East Front Street  
Washington, NJ 07882  
908-689-1119  
Keith T. Neuhs, *Superintendent*

Port Colden School  
30 Port Colden Rd.  
Washington, NJ 07882  
908-689-0681  
Michael Neu, *Principal*

## **Fifth Disease Notice**

Date: June 16, 2017

Dear Parents /Guardians,

This letter is to inform you that it is suspected that an individual at Port Colden School has fifth disease.

Fifth disease is a viral infection transmitted by contact with respiratory secretions. This disease frequently occurs in childcare and school settings.

The signs and symptoms of fifth disease are generally mild. An infected child may initially have a low-grade fever, headache and fatigue. These symptoms can last up to a week and may disappear before a red, blotchy rash giving the appearance of a “slapped cheek” develops on the face. The rash quickly spreads to the abdomen, arms, and legs, where it appears as slightly raised, red bumps and looks lacy. The rash may be itchy and typically resolves within one to three weeks. Once the rash appears, the person is no longer infectious and cannot spread the virus.

If you or someone you know is pregnant and has been in contact with a child with fifth disease, you are encouraged to contact your health care provider. The health care provider may want to run a blood test to determine immunity to fifth disease.

Wash your hands and your child’s hands frequently to prevent the spread of fifth disease. No treatment is necessary for healthy persons who are ill with fifth disease. If your child is suffering from early symptoms, keep him/her at home to prevent the spread of infection.

If you have further questions concerning fifth disease, consult your health care provider or contact the school nurse.

Sincerely,

Administration