



CLAY COUNTY

# PUBLIC HEALTH CENTER



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## Measles

Dear Warren Hills Elementary Parents, Students, Staff and Guests:

The Clay County Public Health Center was notified today of a confirmed case of measles in a Kansas City, Missouri resident that attends Warren Hills Elementary. This notification is for informational purposes only. **At this time, we believe that there was no measles exposure to parents, students, staff or guests at Warren Hills Elementary during school hours.** However, if that information changes Clay County Public Health Center will provide an update.

The best way you can protect yourself is to be up to date on your vaccinations. If you have received your Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine, the likelihood of catching the virus is unlikely. According to the CDC, receiving one dose of the MMR vaccine is 93% effective at preventing measles and if you have received your MMR booster, the effectiveness increases to 97%. The best way to prevent measles is to get your MMR vaccine and booster.

The symptoms of measles generally include a rash that appears 7-21 days after exposure. Measles symptoms typically begins with:

- A high fever
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes

Three to five days after symptoms begin, a rash starts to appear. The rash usually looks like flat red spots that break out first on the face and spread downward to the neck, trunk, arms, legs and feet.

We are urging people who are ill or exhibiting measles-like symptoms to stay at home unless they are seeking medical care. **Before visiting a healthcare provider, call ahead and let the provider know of the measles exposure so that steps can be taken to protect other patients and staff.**

Measles is a highly infectious respiratory disease caused by a virus. Measles is spread through the air by breathing, coughing or sneezing. Measles can be spread to others from four days before to four days after the rash appears. **Measles cannot be spread to others by people who do not have the disease.**

For more information about measles, please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/features/Measles/index.html>

To report a measles case, please call the County Public Health Center at number 816-595-4364.

The mission of the Clay County Public Health Center is to deliver the essential public health services of prevention, promotion and protection to the communities of Clay County.