

BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

October 26, 2007

Dear Boston Public Schools Families and Staff:

We are writing to inform you about a health issue that is receiving considerable media attention and is understandably a concern for parents: *methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), more commonly known as “**staph**” **infection**. The school district is working closely with public health agencies, school nurses, and others to provide information to families and staff about simple ways to help students reduce their risk of contracting the infection.

The enclosed fact sheet from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health provides valuable information about the infection, including helpful strategies for reducing health risks. Additional information specifically for schools is also available on the following websites:

Centers for Disease Control:

<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/MRSAinSchools/>

Massachusetts Department of Public Health:

http://www.mass.gov/dph/cdc/antibiotic/mrsa_school_health.htm

Please be assured that the health and safety of our students and staff remain our top priority. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your family doctor or your school nurse.

Sincerely,

Dr. Carol R. Johnson
Superintendent

Enclosure