

December 21, 2012

Dear Parent:

Belpre City Schools are committed to maximizing students' academic performance and physical wellbeing in a healthy and safe environment. We recognize that head lice infestations do not pose a health hazard, are not a sign of uncleanliness, and are not responsible for the spread of any disease. Lice are very small bugs which can be found on the scalp. Nits look like dandruff, but stick to the hair shaft. Head lice can be spread among children who engage in behaviors such as sharing combs, brushes and hats and through head to head contact.

A few children in our school have been found to have head lice and/or nits. We recommend that you thoroughly screen your child tonight for head lice and nits. If live lice or nits are found, your child should be treated with a pediculicide to kill the lice and you should perform extensive combing along with using fingers to manually remove all nits. Some common treatment brands are: Clear Lice, Nix, Rid and Licenex which can be found at your local drug store. The environment must also be treated. Bedding and clothing must be washed and/or dried in hot water/heat. Items that cannot be washed or dried should be sealed in a garbage bag for 2 weeks. Everything (carpet, furniture, mattresses and car seats) must be swept and then seal sweeper bag in a trash bag. Lice sprays are not recommended due to being ineffective.

Educating your child(ren) about how lice are spread from one child to another can help prevent infestation. Home head lice checks should be part of routine personal hygiene and are recommended to identify early, easily treatable infestation. Please work with your school personnel to help attain a louse-free, education-oriented environment. If you need any additional information, please contact the school office.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

Bernie Boice  
Principal  
Belpre Elementary School

Robbin Alton, RN  
School Nurse  
Belpre Elementary School