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## SCHOOL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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DIRECTOR/PUPIL SVS/SPEC. PROGRAMS

MR. THOMAS H. WROBLESKI  
DIRECTOR/HUMAN RESOURCES

August 23, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians:

In light of the fact that four Norwin High School students have confirmed cases of Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease (HFMD), the Norwin School District is taking preventive measures to ensure the continued health and safety of our students and staff.

Monday, we became aware that two members of the Norwin Knights football team were confirmed to have contracted Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease. We aren't sure how or when the football players contracted the virus, but their parents notified us Monday. Later in the day, we learned of two additional confirmed student cases.

Norwin custodial crews are providing additional cleaning and disinfecting of the field, Norwin Field House, and locker rooms, as well as all areas of the District. In a contact sport such as football, the spread of a virus is difficult to avoid. Because of that, everyone involved (trainers, equipment managers, players and coaches) are being informed of its presence, and the District's athletic trainers are being proactive in educating student-athletes about the importance of thorough hand washing, and not sharing water bottles, towels, or other personal items.

Dr. Daniel Medic, Norwin School District school physician, stated that Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease is a viral infection that has to run its course, and it is no worse than a cold. It is contagious and is passed by contact. Proper hand washing is essential in helping to prevent the spread of the virus.

Students who are diagnosed with Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease are not permitted to return to school until they receive a release from their primary care physician. Students with a fever should stay home from school. Parents who have questions can contact the school nurse, and parents of student-athletes can contact Norwin Trainer Mr. Brian Mesich.

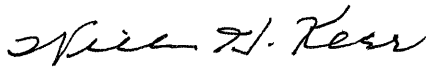
Information on Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease, and how you can protect your family, is available at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov). According to the Centers for Disease Control, the virus usually begins with a fever, poor appetite, malaise (feeling vaguely unwell), and often with a sore throat.

- One or two days after fever onset, painful sores usually develop in the mouth. They begin as small red spots that blister and then often become ulcers. The sores are usually located on the tongue, gums, and inside of the cheeks.
- A non-itchy skin rash develops over one or two days. The rash has flat or raised red spots, sometimes with blisters. The rash is usually located on the palms of the hands and soles of the feet and may also appear on the buttocks and/or genitalia.
- A person with HFMD may experience only some of these symptoms.

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Your child's health and education are very important to us, and we hope to partner with you during the school year to assure that both are achieved at the highest levels. If necessary, more information will be posted on the Norwin School District Web site at [www.norwinsd.org](http://www.norwinsd.org).

Respectfully,



William H. Kerr, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



J. Randall Rovesti, Jr.  
Director of Student Activities/Transportation

C: Norwin School District Board of Education  
All Norwin School District Employees  
Ms. Carol Diemert, First Student Bus Co.