



April 4, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I want to provide you with an update to the stomach illness situation taking place at TOIS. On Wednesday, approximately 18% of the students at TOIS were absent. On a normal day we see about 6% absent. Not all of those absences were due to the stomach illness, but it is safe to say that the majority were due to that illness. The attendance rates in our other four schools were normal.

Today, approximately 45% of the TOIS students are absent. At this point, it is difficult to know exact how many students are home due to illness and how many are home for prevention. As of the sending of this letter, attendance at the other four schools is normal. Rumors that students were vomiting at OTHS were completely unfounded.

Over the past two days we have been in direct contact with the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission (MCRHC). We are working together to make sure we are making the appropriate decisions for our schools based on county and state health guidelines.

TOIS has been thoroughly cleaned both Tuesday and Wednesday nights with the strongest possible cleaning agent. All district buses were cleaned and sanitized. Our other four buildings have been cleaned with the same cleaning materials used at TOIS for precaution.

We will continue to monitor the situation with the MCRHC to determine the best course of action for TOIS. In the meantime, we need your help. Please keep your child home if he/she is sick. We now recommend that your child stay home for at least 48 hours after being symptom free. Also, please refrain from spreading information, which is sometimes false, on social media. It is counterproductive. The district will provide you with information as it becomes available. We are happy to answer any questions you have and are happy to speak with you if you call or email.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Stefankiewicz", is written over a large, stylized, scribbled-out signature.

JIM STEFANKIEWICZ, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools