



**HAMILTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT SERVICES AND PROGRAMS**

February 19, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Hamilton Township Health Department in conjunction with the Department of Student Services & Programs for the Hamilton Township School District wishes to communicate with you the following information. There has been a confirmed case of Mumps in a student at Grice Middle School. Mumps is caused by a virus and is spread by mucus or droplets from the nose or throat of an infected person, usually when a person coughs or sneezes. The virus can be isolated from respiratory secretions a few days before the start of symptoms until five days after their glands begin to swell.

Anyone who is not immune from either previous mumps infection or from vaccination can get mumps. Because most people have now been vaccinated, mumps is now a rare disease in the United States. Of those people who do get mumps, up to half have very mild, or no symptoms, and therefore do not know they were infected with mumps.

The most common symptoms of Mumps are fever, headache, muscle aches, tiredness and loss of appetite followed by onset of parotitis (swollen and tender salivary glands under the ears on one or both sides). Symptoms typically appear 16 – 18 days after infection, but this period can range from 12 – 25 days after infection.

There is no specific treatment for Mumps. Supportive care should be given as needed such as bed rest, fluids and fever reduction. If someone seeks medical attention, they should call their doctor in advance so that they don't have to sit in the waiting room for a long time and possibly infect other patients.

Mumps vaccine (usually given as a combination of Measles, Mumps, Rubella), is the best way to prevent mumps. Other preventative measures include teaching children proper hand washing techniques. Eating utensils should not be shared, and surfaces that are frequently touched (toys, doorknobs, tables, etc.) should be regularly cleaned with soap and water, or with cleaning wipes.

If you have any questions concerning this disease, you may contact the school nurse or the Hamilton Township Division of Health at (609)890-3884.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristin Reed".

Kristin Reed  
Health Officer, Hamilton Township

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marta Audino".

Marta Audino  
Director of Student Services & Programs  
Hamilton Township School District