

NEWS



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DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING 341 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

**For Immediate Release
November 7, 2013**

Contact: Heather Hopson (412) 622-3616

Statement from Pittsburgh Public Schools Superintendent Linda Lane Regarding Bed Bug Sighting at Pittsburgh Brashear

PITTSBURGH, November 7, 2013— As part of our commitment to providing a healthy environment for Pittsburgh Brashear students, the District will implement a second integrated pest management plan in response to a student reporting to the school with bed bugs on his person yesterday. The student was contained, checked and sent home immediately. No additional bed bugs were found in the building.

As a precaution, the entire facility will be fumigated on Saturday Even though it is unlikely for bed bugs to infest a school. The residual effects of the spray will kill bed bugs for up to thirty days.

To communicate with parents about the issue, the school administration has contacted families by telephone and via a letter sent home with students, which provided details about bed bugs. We are taking this matter seriously and will keep parents updated.

We have reached out to the Housing Authority and the Allegheny County Department of Health to find out how we can resolve this problem in a swift and sensitive manner. We must remember this is our student at the center of this story. It is our job to ensure that he is treated with respect and loses a minimum of instructional time due to an issue out of his control. Therefore, we are working through the school and social worker to provide the student with the support he needs.

We would like to express our thanks to the many Brashear parents who, although concerned, wanted to know how they might help the family during this time.

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For information regarding accommodations, civil rights or grievance procedures, contact the Office of Employee Relations, Pittsburgh Public Schools, 341 S. Bellefield Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3516; Phone (412) 622-3691 (Voice/TTY/TDD); Fax (412) 622-7968.