



In Pursuit of Excellence...

Caledonia Community Schools

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September 20, 2019

Dear Caledonia Community Schools,

I'm sure that by now many parents are aware of the concerns in Michigan around confirmed cases of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in Southwest Michigan. This past Tuesday the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issued the attached [press release](#) addressing EEE. The EEE virus is transmitted from infected mosquitoes to humans and could cause great illness for some individuals. Currently, MDHHS has encouraged local officials in several counties to consider posting general precautions, as well as reschedule or cancel outdoor evening activities. These counties are Barry, Berrien, Cass, Genesee, Kalamazoo, Lapeer, St. Joseph, and Van Buren.

While we are not under any advisory in Kent County we did want to provide some general precautionary reminders to our families as we continue to monitor the EEE situation in our state.

- Consider applying insect repellents that contain the active ingredient of DEET, or other EPA registered protectants to exposed skin or clothing if you will be out in the evenings, heavily wooded areas or areas with standing water.
- Consider wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants or other clothing that minimized exposed skin.
- Consider applying insect repellent to clothing.
- Empty water from mosquito breeding sites around your home, pools, etc.

Given the numerous outdoor fall activities for students, district officials will continue to follow the guidance of MDHHS as well as county officials.

Sincerely,

Dedrick Martin, ED.D