

**Communicable Disease Epidemiology
and Immunization Section**

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www.kingcounty.gov/health

May 15, 2019

Dear Issaquah High School Students, Parents and Staff:

You/your child might have been exposed to the measles virus at Issaquah High School between May 6 and 9th, 2019. A person who was contagious but not yet aware of their measles infection was at the school on these days. Measles is a highly contagious and potentially severe disease that causes fever, rash, cough, and red, watery eyes. See the attached fact sheet for more information on measles.

To prevent spread and reduce the risk of exposure to measles, Public Health is requiring that **persons without documented immunity** to measles be **excluded** from Issaquah High School and all other child care, school and congregate settings until 21 days have passed since date of last known possible exposure (May 9), in accordance with WAC [246-105-040](#). Accordingly, exclusion will begin today and extend through May 30. Excluded individuals will be allowed to return to school on May 31. **We will extend this exclusion period if another case occurs at the school.**

If you/your child have already provided documentation of immunity to measles to Issaquah High School, you/your child may continue to attend school as usual. If documentation of immunity has not previously been provided to school staff, you/your child may return to school immediately upon providing appropriate documentation or when the exclusion period has ended.

Documentation of immunity may be provided through any of the following:

- 1) Date of birth before 1957.
- 2) Record of age-appropriate measles vaccination with a live measles virus-containing vaccine: two doses for anyone 4 years and older; one dose for adults, verified by a licensed health care provider.
- 3) A letter from a licensed health care provider documenting infection with and full recovery from previous measles illness.
- 4) A letter from a licensed health care provider that confirms a blood test or serology showing measles immunity.

We recommend you talk to your health care provider about the need for treatment to prevent measles infection if you were exposed to measles and you are in a group at high risk for complications from measles infection including infants and children under 5 years of age,

adults over 20 years, pregnant women, and people with weakened immune systems from drugs or underlying disease. Since measles vaccine is not recommended for pregnant women, we recommend that pregnant women who are not immune talk to their health care provider about potential exposure to measles.

Even if you have documented immunity to measles, please **watch for the signs and symptoms** of the disease. If you suspect you/your child is ill with measles, please inform the school and seek medical care as needed. Call your health care provider **before** visiting the medical office make a plan that avoids exposing others in the waiting room (tell them you have been exposed to measles and could be contagious).

If you have additional questions please contact your healthcare provider, your school, or Public Health at 206-296-4774. Additional information about measles can be found at: www.kingcounty.gov/depts/health/communicable-diseases/disease-control/measles.aspx.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eileen Benoiel RN".

Eileen Benoiel, RN, BSN, CIC
Vaccine Preventable Disease Program Manager