

## **Mumps case confirmed at Livingston County high school**

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A student at Livonia High School in Livingston County has a confirmed case of mumps, the school district said on Friday.

In a letter addressed to families of middle and high school students, Superintendent Matt Cole said the case was confirmed by the Livingston County Department of Health and recommended that parents watch their child for symptoms of the viral disease.

“According to medical professionals advising us on this matter, there is a low risk for our students but there is a chance your child may have been exposed,” Cole wrote in the letter. “If your child develops any swelling of the glands around the ears or neck, please keep him or her at home and contact your child’s doctor.”

Cole also reminded parents that the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccination is the best protection against the disease, and that students are generally required to have the vaccination to attend public school.

Religious or medical exemptions are rare, he added.

Parents and families with questions or concerns are asked to contact the county public health department at (585) 243-7299 or the school nurses at (585) 346-4000.

### **Mumps symptoms**

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, mumps is a highly contagious disease caused by a virus, and often results in swelling of salivary glands that causes the characteristic swollen face and jaw.

Preliminary symptoms include fever, headache, muscle aches, tiredness and loss of appetite. Tender and swollen cheeks, neck and jaw typically appears 16-18 days after infection, according to the CDC.

Mumps is a preventable disease, and the MMR vaccination is typically administered in two separate doses — the first at 12 to 15 months of age, the second at 4 to 6 years of age, according to the CDC.

Contact your primary care provider to verify immunization and your child’s vaccination records.

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