

EASTAMPTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Ambrose F. Duckett, III
Superintendent/Principal



Marian F. Smith
Business Admin/Board Secretary

November 2, 2016

Dear Eastampton Community,

Greetings from your School Nurse's Office. We are writing to share some updated health information to help make this year a productive one.

Specifically, the management and treatment of head lice. In recent years, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the National Association of School Nurses (NASN), have all updated their positions.

With respect to schools, they stress that the management and treatment of head lice should not disrupt the educational process. Screening and notification programs have not been shown to have a significant effect on the spread of head lice. The focus is therefore on educating and reminding parents/guardians to always monitor their children's health, including for symptoms of head lice.

- Tickling feeling on the scalp.
- Itching on the scalp (caused by bites).
- Irritability and difficulty sleeping (lice are more active in the dark).
- Sores on scalp (caused by scratching, which may become infected).
- Presence of nits or lice (most commonly behind the ears and near the neckline).

In the event that head lice is suspected, household, and close contacts should be checked for symptoms. Parents/guardians are asked to notify the school nurse's office, and are encouraged to contact the child's pediatrician for diagnosis and treatment recommendations. And everyone is reminded to respect the privacy of all students regarding all health information.

Below you will find additional informational and educational material. Please contact the nurse's office with any questions, concerns, or for further discussion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catherine Alderman". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Catherine Alderman, RN, BN, CSN
School Nurse (K-4)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Ostaszewski". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mary Ostaszewski, RN, BN, CSN
School Nurse (5-8)

<https://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/aap-press-room/Pages/AAP-Updates-Treatments-for-Head-Lice.aspx>

<https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/schools.html>

<https://www.nasn.org/PolicyAdvocacy/PositionPapersandReports/NASNPositionStatementsFullView/tabid/462/smid/824/ArticleID/934/Default.aspx>

<https://www.nasn.org/ToolsResources/HeadLicePediculosisCapitis/HeadfirstLiceLessons>