



NEW LEXINGTON SCHOOLS
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Casey Coffey Superintendent

Dear Parents/ Guardian,

Bed bugs, roaches, and other pests have become an increasing problem in society. They are a nuisance, but are not known to spread disease. Specifically, bed bugs and lice are not considered a medical or public health hazard. However, as a school, we understand the concern parents may have regarding these pests.

The source of most pests often cannot be determined, as they may be found in many places, such as hotels and movie theatres. Unfortunately, schools are now faced with the issue of bed bugs and other pests. We cannot prevent most pests from being brought into the schools. However, if bed bugs, roaches, or other pests are confirmed in a particular area of the school, the area will be treated as necessary.

When dealing with bed bugs specifically:

There is a slight risk that bed bugs may hitchhike from the home to school by hiding in items such as clothing or backpacks. The school is requesting families that suspect bed bugs in their home take these three steps to reduce the risk of bedbugs transporting to the school:

1. Please keep all clothes, shoes, backpacks, lunchboxes, coats, homework, books and laptops away from beds and upholstered furniture.
2. Any items that must be stored near beds or other furniture should be placed in a clear plastic bin or plastic bag until the student needs to take outside the home.
3. If you suspect these items have been in contact with beds or other furniture, please place these items in a dryer on medium-high heat for at least 20 minutes. Also, items can be laundered by washing and drying on the hottest settings the fabric can safely withstand.

To view frequently asked questions regarding bed bugs and other pests, you may visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at <http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/bedbugs/faqs.html>
You may also contact your school nurse or local health department for more information.

As always, please feel to notify us with questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Dave Rupe
Director of Operations