

INFORMATIONAL LETTER FOR PARENTS – BED BUGS

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We recently found a confirmed bed bug in your student's classrooms at [School Name].

Bed bugs are a nuisance, but they are not known to cause or spread disease. They are usually active at night when they can attach to a human and bite. The bite is initially painless, but it may become swollen and itch, much like a mosquito bite. If you have concerns for you or your child, you should call your healthcare provider.

Although bed bugs are not known to transmit diseases, their presence may cause distress and health issues. The following health issues are associated with infestations of bed bugs:

- Minor skin irritations that itch, which can lead to excessive scratching and increased risk of a secondary skin infection.
- Allergic reactions which require medical attention.

The following steps will help to prevent bed bugs from coming home:

- Limit the items your student brings home from school;
- Inspect your student's backpack, lunch box, jacket, and other items; and
- Keep school items like backpacks, books, and jackets away from sleeping areas.

The District custodial supervisor and school nurse have been made aware that bed bugs have been reported at [School Name]. The Bonneville Joint School District 93 is taking appropriate steps to ensure that your school does not experience an infestation of bed bugs. If you have experienced bed bugs in your home, we strongly recommend seeking professional assistance from a qualified pest control company.

If your student has any bites, you should contact your healthcare provider.

Further information on preventing bed bugs is available on the following websites:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
<http://www.epa.gov/bedbugs/>
- Center of Disease Control (CDC)
<http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/bedbugs/faqs.html>

If you have any questions, please feel free to call your school at [School Number].

Sincerely,

Principal/Designee