



May 13, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian:

**Your child may have been exposed to varicella (chickenpox) at Longfellow Middle school between 5/08/2019 through 5/10/2019.** By law, varicella is reported to the health department for follow up and disease control. Varicella is a vaccine-preventable disease. Children one year of age or older may receive the varicella vaccine. The classic symptom of varicella is an itchy, blister-like rash that turns into scabs. Additional symptoms that may appear 1-2 days before the rash include: fever, tiredness, headache, and loss of appetite.

Varicella is a very contagious disease that is spread through contact with the virus particles that come from the blisters and breathing the tiny droplets when an infected person breathes or talks. Varicella can be spread to others 1-2 days before the rash appears until every blister has crusted over. The incubation period of varicella is 10-21 days.

**Please consider the following Wauwatosa Health Department recommendations:**

1. If your child comes down with the above symptoms, talk to your child's health care provider without delay. Tell the health care provider that there was varicella identified in your child's school and that your child needs to be evaluated. Please keep your child home until the results of diagnostic testing are known.
2. If your child has not been completely immunized against varicella, we recommend you talk to your child's health care provider about immunization to protect your child against varicella.

The Wauwatosa Health Department nurses are available to answer questions you may have about pertussis. Please feel free to call us at 479-8939 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays or contact your health care provider.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura Conklin".

Laura Conklin  
Wauwatosa Health Officer



City of Wauwatosa Health Department

7725 West North Avenue  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213  
T (414) 479-8936 / F (414) 471-8483  
[www.wauwatosa.net/health](http://www.wauwatosa.net/health)

Laura Conklin, MPH - Health Officer

