



**Auburn**  
Enlarged City School District



*Harriet Tubman*  
*Administration Building*  
*Office of Health Services*

Date: November 22, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I want to advise families that a student in Casey Park Elementary recently had a confirmed case of Pertussis or Whooping Cough.

Pertussis is a highly contagious disease involving the respiratory tract. Pertussis is primarily spread by direct contact with discharge from the nose and throat of infected individuals. Pertussis begins as a mild upper respiratory infection, and its symptoms resemble those of a common cold, including sneezing, runny nose, low grade fever and a mild cough. Within two weeks, the cough can become severe, characterized by episodes of numerous rapid coughs followed by a high pitched cough. The episodes may recur for one to two months, and are more frequent at night.

The incubation period for Pertussis is usually 5-10 days but may be as long as 21 days. Immunization authorities recommend that vaccine for Pertussis be given to children at 12-15 months old and at two, four, six, and eleven years of age.

If your child has these symptoms, you should consult with your family physician so an accurate diagnosis can be made. In addition, anyone who is pregnant, has an infant less than a year old, or a weakened immune system you should consult with your family physician if you become symptomatic. Thank you for your consideration of this important health matter.

Sincerely,

Caren Radell, RN  
Supervisor of Nursing  
and Health Services AECSD

Revised 11/2019