



RICHARDSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Where all students learn, grow and succeed

October 2, 2014

Dear Wallace Elementary Parents:

Today, the Dallas County Health & Human Services Department notified the district that three sibling students at Wallace Elementary were recently reported to have been in contact with the individual diagnosed with Ebola. The health authorities determined the contact as a part of its ongoing investigation. The three students are healthy and are demonstrating no symptoms of an Ebola illness but, as a precaution, have been removed from Wallace Elementary to be monitored.

It is critical for parents to remember that Ebola cannot be transmitted by someone who is not exhibiting symptoms of the illness, including a high fever. The students at Wallace have attended school all week and have not demonstrated or complained of any symptoms. Coming in contact with a person who is ill with Ebola does not mean a person will contract the virus.

Prior to today's notification, RISD had no information from the health authorities to indicate that there were any RISD connections to the Ebola contact investigation. Health authorities have indicated that no other RISD schools, students, parents, or staff members have been linked to the contact investigation at this time other than the three students at Wallace Elementary.

RISD nurses and district Health Services personnel are trained in the recognition of symptoms and protocols of communicable diseases and are constantly monitoring and educating students and staff. As a precaution, additional health services personnel will be assigned to assist Wallace Elementary as needed.

With the onset of seasonal flu season, the district already has begun increasing the frequency of custodial and cleaning schedules, especially in high-traffic, high-touch areas at all schools. As an added precaution, crews will be conducting additional nightly cleanings at Wallace Elementary.

For more information about Ebola and the Dallas case, parents can review the attached FAQ document or information at the following link: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ebola-factsheet.pdf>.

The health and safety of our students and staff remain our highest priority.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kay Waggoner'.

Kay Waggoner, Ph.D.
Superintendent

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gloria Canham'.

Gloria Canham, RN, BSN, MSN
Director of Health Services