



## Gladden Middle School

700 Old Ellijay Rd.  
Chatsworth, GA 30705  
(706) 695-7448

Phillip Greeson, Ed. D.  
*Principal*

Jennifer Jones  
*Assistant Principal*

December 14, 2016

Dear Parents,

We have been informed today one of our students has been diagnosed with meningitis.

The following information may help you better understand these contagious diseases:

### **meningitis**

- People who get viral meningitis usually recover completely with rest and fever-reducing medicine.
- Viral meningitis can occur throughout the year, but is most common in the summer and fall. People of any age can get viral meningitis, but it is more frequent in children.
- About 90% of viral meningitis cases are due to common stomach viruses called enteroviruses. Enteroviruses are passed from person to person through stool or saliva (spit), but most people who come in contact with enteroviruses do not develop an infection.
- Getting infected with one of the germs that can cause viral meningitis does not automatically mean a person will get meningitis. In most cases, the germ will simply cause a cold, upset stomach or diarrhea.
- There is not specific prevention for viral meningitis. However, good personal hygiene, such as frequent hand washing, can reduce the chances of catching viral meningitis and other illnesses.
- Antibiotics are not effective against viruses.

### **General Information**

- School administrators will work closely with our system nurses to insure all required procedures are completed.
- Our school's cleaning service has been informed and will begin a deep cleaning and sanitizing of the school.

Please do not call the school for an update on the student.

Sincerely,

Phillip Greeson, Ed. D.  
Principal