



North Stonington Public Schools

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NATALIE J. PUKAS
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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September 14, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The New London Day reported on Saturday that the "Eastern equine encephalitis virus was recently found in mosquitoes collected in North Stonington." The article also stated, "To date this year, no Connecticut residents have been infected."

I have been in contact with representatives from the CT State Department of Health regarding this issue. They indicated that the level of risk is low and they do not recommend changing our routine. They did emphasize protection from mosquitoes. Below is a quote from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

CDC recommends the use of products containing active ingredients which have been registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for use as repellents applied to skin and clothing. (CDC "Updated Information regarding Mosquito Repellents"- March 2008)

The state will continue to trap mosquitoes and monitor. Until there is different information about the presence and number of mosquitoes in Connecticut carrying the EEE virus, we will continue our normal routine. Should the situation change, I will inform you immediately.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, kindly contact our school nurses or go to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website www.cdc.gov.

Sincerely,

Natalie J. Pukas, Ph.D.
Superintendent