



## ***Kimberly School District***

141 Center Street West    Kimberly Idaho 83341    Phone: 208-423-4170    Fax: 208-423-6155

04/30/18

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This letter is to inform you that there is a possible case of varicella (chickenpox) in our school district.

Chickenpox is caused by a virus that leads to an itchy rash. The rash begins with small, red spots that develop into blisters which become scabs in 4-5 days. The rash may be the first sign of illness, sometimes coupled with fever. The virus spreads from person to person by direct contact or through air. Infected persons are contagious 1-2 days prior to the onset of symptoms. Although chickenpox is usually mild, it may be a serious illness in infants, adults, pregnant women, and persons with weak immune systems.

The chickenpox (varicella) vaccine is effective in preventing the illness or it can help lessen the disease if given within 3-5 days of exposure. If you have any children or adults in your home with a weak immune system or who are not immunized against chickenpox disease, please talk to your physician regarding this exposure. If your child develops chickenpox, he/she will be excluded from school until the rash has completely scabbed over and there are no new blisters appearing (usually 6 days after the start of the rash for healthy children).

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,

Rachel Cluff, RN  
School Nurse