

# Hartford Central School

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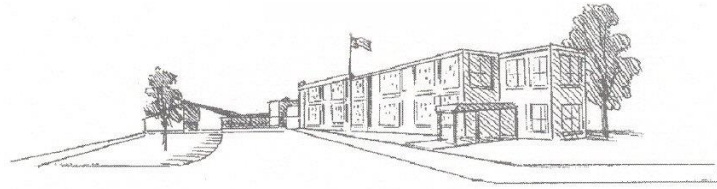
Ronald Smith

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*"Hartford Central School, a community of educators, students, parents, and friends, dedicates itself to developing citizens who are productive and compassionate, and who, through their creativity and responsibility, will be assets to the greater community."*

Andrew Cook  
Superintendent  
632-5931

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632-5923

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632-5222

Joann Searles  
District Treasurer  
632-5931

February 5, 2019

To All Parents/Guardians:

This letter is to inform you that there is a verified case of scabies in the district. As a result of this diagnoses, we are notifying all students in the district and providing information regarding the parasite and preventative measures. If you have any questions regarding the information below, please feel free to contact Nurse Arlen at 518-632-5222, extension 398.

### **What is scabies?**

Scabies is an infestation of the skin that is caused by the burrowing of a tiny mite (*smaller than a pinhead*). The mite can burrow anywhere in the skin, though it is most commonly found on hands and other skin folds. As a result of the burrowing, an infected individual will itch, which will then cause a rash to develop.

### **Can my child get scabies at school?**

Anyone can get scabies, as the mite will pass from person to person through skin contact. However, scabies is unlikely to be caught by short contact that occurs in an educational setting (*i.e. shaking hands*). Longer physical contact is needed, but could be as little as five to ten minutes.

### **How will I know if my child has scabies?**

If your child develops an itchy rash, please bring them to their doctor for diagnosis. Please be especially alert to intense itching at night.

### **What should I do if I believe my child has scabies?**

A variety of special lotions and creams, over the counter and prescription, are available at the pharmacy. However, it is best to see your doctor first to be sure that it is scabies. In addition, it is common for scabies to be passed throughout a household, if a diagnosis is determined; it is a good idea to treat all family members at the same time, even if no one else is showing symptoms.

At this time, the district is adhering to guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for disinfecting and cleaning, and believes this is an isolated issue.

Sincerely,

Andrew Cook  
Superintendent  
Hartford Central School District