***Germantown Municipal Schools***

***Facts About Head Lice***

1. Head Lice has been with us for many thousands of years.
2. Head Lice has nothing to do with personal hygiene.
3. Head lice do not live in the house and therefore cannot be treated with bug bombs or by extermination.
4. Spray bug bombs and extermination services are not helpful and only waste money.
5. Bleach, Lysol and special cleaners do nothing to kill lice in the laundry or on the furniture.
6. Hot water and a hot dryer or freezing for 24-48 hours kills lice.
7. Head Lice only lives on people’s heads.
8. Head Lice cannot jump and cannot fly they only crawl fast.
9. Most states require schools personnel to exclude children from school.
10. If they have certain communicable diseases and Head Lice (pediculosis) is usually on the list of communicable diseases.
11. Do not treat your child to PREVENT Head Lice that will not work.
12. Only treat children who are showing actual signs and symptoms of Head Lice.
13. Many children are unnecessarily and unsafely re-treated many times with specials shampoos –which contain pesticides. At the least, this irritates the scalp. It may also contribute to the growing resistance of some lice to the pesticides. At worst, it can cause toxicity from overdosing with pesticides.
14. Head Lice treatments include the removal of eggs (nits) or “nit-picking” is not difficult but takes a lot of time, is tedious, and time consuming.

***If you would like more information, please call the school nurse assigned to your school.***

***There are also helpful websites that provide information about Head Lice.***

[***http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/***](http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/)