

Risk of Injury — We acknowledge and understand that there is a risk of injury involved in athletic participation. We understand that the student-athlete will be under the supervision and direction of a GCPSS athletic coach. We agree to follow the rules of the sport and the instructions of the coach in order to reduce the risk of injury to the student and other athletes. However, we acknowledge and understand that neither the coach nor GCPSS can eliminate the risk of injury in sports. Injuries may and do occur. Sports injuries can be severe and in some cases may result in permanent disability or even death. We freely, knowingly, and willfully accept and assume the risk of injury that might occur from participation in athletics.

Gaston County Regulations Student Athlete Pledge — As a student athlete, I am a role model. I understand the spirit of fair play while playing hard. I will refrain from engaging in all types of disrespectful behavior, including inappropriate language, taunting, trash talking, and unnecessary physical contact. I know the behavior expectations of my school and hereby accept the responsibility and

Dear Parents,

The following information is provided as prevention education and to encourage you to seek medical care should your child develop an infection.

WHAT IS A STAPH INFECTION?

The bacteria, Staphylococcus Aureus (usually referred to as Staph), is commonly carried on the skin or in the nose of healthy people. Some strains of these bacteria are resistant to a class of antibiotic which is frequently used to treat Staph infections and therefore they are called Methicillin Resistant Staph Aureus or MRSA.

Staph bacteria, including MRSA, can live on the skin or in the nose of healthy people without causing any symptoms of disease. However, injury to the skin, such as a scrape or cut can allow an opportunity for the bacteria to enter the skin and cause an infection. Skin infections, such as abscesses and boils, are the most common forms of this infection. The infected area usually starts out as a small bump resembling a pimple or spider bite which becomes redder and often develops a purulent drainage.

Infections caused by Staph bacteria or MRSA are usually mild, limited to the surface of the skin, and can be treated successfully with proper hygiene and antibiotics. In rare cases, if left untreated or not recognized early, MRSA infections can be difficult to treat and can progress to life-threatening blood or bone infections because there are fewer effective antibiotics available for treatment.

WHO GETS A STAPH INFECTION?

Staph bacteria can be spread among people having close contact with an infected person. MRSA is almost

