

Date

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This morning at School a bat was found in the kindergarten hallway. Your child may have been in the vicinity of the bat and some students may have touched the bat. The parents of the students who touched the bat students have been notified. The bat was retrieved by our maintenance department and was taken to New Braunfels Animal Control to be tested for rabies. All students completed hand hygiene and listened to a valuable lesson on how to never touch a bat.

The Texas Department of State Health Services Zoonosis Department was consulted regarding treatment with a rabies vaccine. At this time, the recommendation would be one of two options if you have been notified that your student came in contact with the bat:

1. Await for the test results of the bat, likely available early next week **OR**
2. Consult with your primary care provider on a recommendation for prophylactically treating your child with the Rabies vaccine series. The following emergency room locations have the initial dose of the vaccine series available: Christus Santa Rosa New Braunfels, Resolute Hospital and Express Med (in San Antonio.)

Most importantly, we must emphasize to our children to never touch a bat or any stray animal as they could potentially carry the rabies virus. The campus will be monitored by school district personnel who will continue to inspect the facility for any signs of bats. School officials will take the appropriate actions and notify you if any more bats are found. We are committed to providing a safe environment for our children. Inspections to keep the campus free of pests are conducted throughout the year.

If you have any questions, please contact me or our Director of Health Services, Karen Schwind BSN, RN at kschwind@nbisd.org or 830-643-5783. For additional educational information see the resources below.

DSHS Rabies: <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/rabies>

Bats and Rabies: <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/rabies/treatment/bats>

About Bats and Rabies: <https://agrilife.org/batsinschools/about-rabies/>

Sincerely,

Principal

Phone number

Date

Dear Parent/Guardian,

It was brought to our attention this morning that a bat was found in our kindergarten hallway. We are currently using our video surveillance to investigate, and will notify the parents of any students we believe came in contact with the bat. All students have completed hand hygiene and listened to a valuable lesson on how to handle stray animals.

The bat was retrieved by our maintenance department and was taken to New Braunfels Animal Control to be tested for rabies. The Texas Department of State Health Services Zoonosis Department was consulted regarding a rabies vaccine should any student need the treatment.

The campus will be monitored by school district personnel who will continue to inspect the facility for any signs of bats. We are committed to providing a safe environment for our children. We encourage you to have a conversation with your child on the importance of staying away from stray animals as they could potentially be harmful.

If you have any questions, please contact me or our Director of Health Services, Karen Schwind BSN, RN at kschwind@nbisd.org or 830-643-5783.

Sincerely,

Principal

Phone