



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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TUBERCULOSIS CASE REPORTED AT HORACE MANN MIDDLE SCHOOL *HHSA, School Officials Notifying Students, Faculty and Staff*

The County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) is working with Horace Mann Middle School (San Diego Unified School District) officials to notify classmates, faculty and staff who were possibly exposed to tuberculosis (TB). A student who attended classes from Nov. 1, 2007 to April 23, 2008 has been diagnosed with TB.

“It is important for people to know TB is in our community,” says Dean Sidelinger, M.D., M.S.Ed, Deputy County Public Health Officer. “Tuberculosis is spread through the air during prolonged contact with a person with TB. If you have symptoms of TB, please contact your health provider.”

HHSA TB Control and Horace Mann Middle School staff have identified approximately 120 people, including students, faculty and staff that were potentially exposed and are sending letters to students and parents today. Testing will be conducted on campus the week of May 6.

Tuberculosis is not uncommon in the San Diego region. In 2007, there were 280 total cases of tuberculosis in San Diego County. In 2008 to date, there have been 51 cases of TB.

Symptoms of active TB include persistent cough, fever, night sweats and unexplained weight loss. Most people who are exposed to TB do not develop the disease.

Individuals with no medical provider, or anyone who would like more information, may call the County TB Control Program at (619) 692-8621.

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