May 23, 2022

Dear Parents,

The Northside Independent School District (NISD) and Harlan High School were notified by the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) that one individual on the campus has tested positive for tuberculosis (TB).

While the individual has been deemed no longer infectious, Metro Health will begin working to identify students and staff who may have been potentially exposed. These individuals will be screened as a precautionary measure.

Metro Health will contact parents of students identified as being potentially exposed by letter. If you do not receive a letter from Metro Health, then your child was not potentially exposed.

However, we want to ensure that all parents of students at Harlan High School are informed. Tuberculosis is an illness caused by bacteria resulting in an infection that typically affects the lungs. Information from the American Pulmonary Association states, “It is not easy to contract an infection of tuberculosis.” Usually, a person must have close contact with the infected person for a substantial length of time to get TB. Casual and limited contact with a person with active TB is not enough for someone to pass it on to others. Tuberculosis infection and disease can be cured with medication.

NISD and Harlan High School will work closely with Metro Health to facilitate a TB screening. It is very important that potentially exposed individuals participate in this tuberculosis investigation.

A community informational meeting will be held to answer questions and explain procedures. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 31 at 6 PM in the Harlan High School cafeteria. Harlan High School staff were provided this information this morning.

For more information, contact the Metro Health Chest Clinic at (210) 207-8823.

Thank you,

Robert Harris
Principal
John M. Harlan High School