



NEWS RELEASE

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Central District Health and Boise School District Partnering on Tuberculosis Investigation

Boise, ID — Central District Health (CDH) has recently received notice from a local health professional of a person diagnosed with active Tuberculosis (TB). CDH learned that a limited number of students and staff at Capital High School may have been exposed to this person with tuberculosis (TB) during January through May of the 2018-19 school year.

This person is no longer affiliated with Capital High School or the Boise School District. **At this time, there is no known ongoing risk for TB exposure at the school and it is safe for students and staff to attend school and participate in activities as usual.** The general public is not at an increased risk of getting TB as a result of this case.

CDH has contacted staff and students directly by mail who they have determined may have been exposed to the active case of TB and provided further information about evaluation and testing. Letters were mailed on Wednesday, September 25, 2019. **No persons other than those contacted directly by CDH will need to take action.**

Staff and students who may have been exposed are encouraged to get tested for TB through their primary care provider, Central District Health or the local health district closest to them. CDH and BSD have informed all staff and parents with children at the school of the matter.

About Tuberculosis

TB is a disease caused by bacteria spread through the air, usually through repeated and prolonged exposure in a confined indoor space. It often affects the lungs but may also affect other parts of the body.

- Most people who are exposed to TB do not get infected.
- People who are infected cannot give TB to others unless they are sick with TB.
- Typical symptoms of tuberculosis disease are a chronic cough, fever, or night sweats that are persistent for several weeks and usually get worse.

People experiencing chronic symptoms who think they may have been exposed to TB should call their primary care provider. Most cases of TB are treatable with antibiotics that are commonly available.

Tuberculosis in Idaho

In Idaho, there were 15 TB cases reported in 2018; eight of those cases were in Ada County. TB case counts and information is tracked by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and can be found at <https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/Health/DiseasesConditions/Tuberculosis/tabid/378/Default.aspx>

Additional facts about TB are available on the Central District Health website at www.cdhd.idaho.gov/dac-tb or on this [Question and Answer document](#).

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