VERONA HIGH SCHOOL

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Glenn J. Cesa
Principal

Gary Farishian
Director of Athletics

David Galbierczyk
Assistant Principal

Kimberly Ferlauto
Director of Guidance

April 12, 2013

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Recently, we have encountered some isolated insect issues in the hallways and lockers that have increased both last week and early this week. While the issues themselves pose no harm to students and staff and could be attributed to a number of factors, , we would like to inform you of the steps we take throughout the year as well as what we will be doing next week to address this situation.

The Verona School District adheres to an Integrated Pest Management System, which is required by law for all schools in the state of New Jersey, for all of the buildings in the district. We have a service (Alliance Pest Control who serve 60 school districts in the state and are very familiar with IPM requirements along with best practices for controlling pests) that makes routine visits and inspections, as well as recommendations to remediate any pest problem. Each time the service visits, or if any issues related to insects or other pest events occurs, it is recorded in our IPM Log Book. Due to restrictions on the use of chemicals (including pesticides) while children are present, our Custodial Staff is limited in how they can address certain issues. That being said, our Custodial Staff is always prepared to the best of their ability to provide appropriate steps to remediate any problems during the school day. If you would like more information regarding our IPM Policy, please visit the district web site and click on *Buildings and Grounds*, then see the link on the left side of the page *Integrated Pest Management* for more details.

While our Custodial staff and our outside Commercial Pest Control company play a major role in this area, all of us have an opportunity to assist in helping our building to be as clean and clear of pest issues as possible. To this end, VHS will be following a Locker Clean-Out schedule on Thursday, April 18th. This is similar to our end of the year locker clean-out, where students will be called to their locker by grade and throw any unnecessary materials into the trash. We will also be asking our students to remove all books, clothing and other items from their locker on Friday, April 19th so that our Custodial Staff can sweep all the lockers during our Spring Vacation. Mr. Paul McDevitt, our Director of Facilities, will meet with our Commercial Pest Control Company to review the situation and address our concerns. The outside company will make recommendations that will be followed during our Spring Break. Finally, we are recommending that all students and staff who bring their lunch to school use sealed plastic containers in an effort to provide a more sanitary environment.

We are confident that the steps that we have taken, as well as these that will be put in place over the next two weeks will appropriately address this situation. Thank you for your continued support of Verona High School.

Sincerely,

Glenn J. Cesa
Principal

Sincerely,

David Galbierczyk
Assistant Principal