

[DATE]

[ADDRESS, CITY, STATE, ZIP]

[PHONE NUMBER]

Dear Parent/Guardian,

One of your child’s classmates was diagnosed with a treatable digestive system infection known as giardiasis which is caused by a parasite.

The onset of illness can be anywhere from 3-25 days after contact with the parasite. Symptoms can often include diarrhea, stomach pain or cramps, fatigue, loss of appetite, and excessive gas.

It is spread by the fecal-oral route. The parasite would have to leave an infected person’s body in the stool and are spread by infected hands, surfaces, food or water. It can spread quick and easy.

If your child has any of the symptoms, you should call your doctor. Your doctor will likely have a series of stool specimens tested. If your child is diagnosed with giardiasis please let the Bay County Health Department and/or [SCHOOL/DAYCARE] know right away so they can be aware of more cases. The child should be kept at home until they are free of symptoms or told by the doctor they can return to [SCHOOL/DAYCARE] .

If you have any questions you can contact the Bay County Health Department at 989-895-4003 for more information.

Sincerely,

NAME, TITLE