

e-mail from a Gabriel Customer

From: Georgia School District
Thursday - November 8, 2007
To: Gabe Zanche, Sr.
Subject: MRSA

Gabe,

With the recent scare caused by MRSA, I was amazed at the number of companies that want to sell me disinfectants to remedy this problem. This got me to thinking about why we do what we do in cleaning our facilities.

I decided to revisit my notes from one of your Total Quality Housekeeping classes that I attended. The one thing that stuck out from the training was that germs do not store food (as in a stomach) and can only survive by living in soil. Our focus has always been that if you remove the soil you remove the germs. Armed with this information we decided to extend what we already do to help prevent the spread of germs.

We met with teachers, nurses and custodians and decided on a plan of action. Since students change classes frequently we decided to give teachers a solution of soap and water and paper towels so they could wash their desktops and other areas each time there was a class change.

Finally, before the students discard the paper towels they are instructed to wipe their hands to remove any soil. The nurses reviewed with students the importance of washing hands thoroughly and often. The custodians were reminded of their role in this process.

Additionally, I pointed out how important it was to properly clean the restrooms, as this is probably one of the most likely areas to spread germs. I stressed to all that cleaning away the soil was our focus and they would only compound the problem by using disinfectants on an unclean surface.

Thank you,