



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No Cavities at Margaretta Elementary: Erie County Health Department Applauds Success of Mobile Dental Program

Sandusky, OH, May 20, 2025 - For the children at Margaretta Elementary, the secret to a healthy smile isn't so secret—it's regular care, smart habits, and a partnership with the Erie County Health Department/Erie County Community Health Center's (ECHD/ECCHC) mobile dental team.

During a recent visit to Margaretta, where students receive biannual cleanings and exams, not a single cavity was found. The school's six-month rotation has become a model for preventive dental health, thanks to a commitment from educators, families, and public health providers.

"This is what preventive care looks like in action," said Heather Westcott, RN, Senior Chief Clinical Officer, ECHD/ECCHC. "We're not just checking teeth—we're changing outcomes."

Mobile Health Access for Every School

Through our Mobile Health Vehicle, the ECHD/ECCHC travels to any school in the area twice per year to offer dental exams and cleanings, school physicals, primary care well visits, immunizations, and more. This program ensures that every child—regardless of transportation or insurance barriers—has access to the care they need to stay healthy and in school.

Why Early Dental Care Matters

Dental decay is one of the most common chronic childhood conditions—and one of the most preventable. Poor oral health can lead to pain, missed school days, and even speech development issues.

A strong at-home dental routine includes:

- Brushing twice a day for two minutes with fluoride toothpaste
- Flossing daily (yes, even for little ones!)
- Drinking water, especially after meals
- Visiting the dentist twice a year for cleanings and exams

"Starting early builds lifelong habits," said Westcott. "We're proud of the Margaretta students—and we're here to help every child in Erie County get the same healthy start."

For more information about ECHD/ECCHC services, visit www.ErieCoHealthOhio.com.

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