

Flemington-Raritan Regional School District  
Ms. Kari McGann  
Superintendent of Schools  
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TO: Parents of Reading-Fleming Intermediate School Students  
FROM: Kari McGann, Superintendent of Schools  
DATE: August 21, 2018  
RE: **Continued Communication: Indoor Air Quality in the Basement at Reading-Fleming Intermediate School**

On Monday, members of our administration team, Director of Facilities, the Business Administrator, and I met with analysts from R. K. Occupational & Environmental Analysis Company out of Phillipsburg, New Jersey to prepare a plan to remediate the moisture problems in the basement at Reading-Fleming Intermediate School (RFIS). A remediation/cleanup plan is in place for the basement at RFIS. To date there have been no moisture or humidity concerns brought to my attention for any other parts of the building at RFIS, with the exception of the basement.

#### **Remediation/Cleanup Plan for the Basement at RFIS:**

1. Clean and dry materials;
2. Discard porous items that cannot be cleaned;
3. Fix the humidity and moisture problem;
4. Set basement workspace temperatures at 75 degrees to avoid humidity buildup;
5. Air sampling and surface testing by R. K. Environmental in all infected areas in the basement;
6. Possible closure of a back section of the basement with a structural wall; and
7. Communication with staff and parents the cleanup process and outcomes of the external testing.

To be proactive and ensure our building has quality indoor air for students and staff, strategic sample testing will occur this week in other areas throughout RFIS by R. & K. Environmental Analysis Company. It is important that I reiterate, to date there have been no moisture or humidity levels that have caused concerns at RFIS other than in areas of the basement where students do not access. With that said, I want to make sure that we alleviate any concerns that parents may have regarding indoor air quality prior to the opening our doors for students' return on the first day of school.

Results of the strategic sample testing at RFIS will be reported to staff and parents. For the time being, to allow the remediation/cleanup process to be completed effectively and efficiently, the basement at RFIS will be closed until further notice. We are hopeful that with remediation the downstairs gymnasium can still be used by students. Once we have test results that show the basement has an indoor air quality that meets all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations and guidelines, I will re-open the downstairs gymnasium.

#### **Important to Note:**

The need to remediate and clean our basement workplace areas requires that we clean and surface test items that have been stored in the basement, specifically student technology devices recently purchased for our 5th grade students. Most Chromebooks are still boxed and do not need to be serviced by a HEPA vacuum, but some do. A HEPA (High-Efficiency Particulate Air) vacuum differs from a conventional vacuum in that they contain filters that are capable of trapping extremely small, micro-sized particles. Due to the need to clean these devices, fifth grade technology distribution will be delayed until the first day of school at RFIS. Watch for further communication from Supervisor of Educational Technology, Ralph Losanno, about necessary steps to complete before a device can be released to a fifth grade student.

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We are being diligent to ensure that humidity levels and the indoor air quality for students and staff are at appropriate levels. I will communicate results of the indoor and surface area testing in the basement and the strategic sample testing in other areas at RFIS and any further action that may be recommended or required.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kari McGann".

Kari McGann  
Superintendent of Schools