



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
PHILADELPHIA

# Environmental Safety Improvement Plan: January 2020 Update - Finance & Facilities Committee



# Follow Ups from 12.05.19 Committee Meeting

Questions posed at Committee Meeting	District Response
<p><b>Environmental Safety Improvement Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What responsibilities does the District have to test air quality when it completes remediation work in an area? What is the industry standard? How do we know the area is safe for children and staff?</li><li>• What are the District's responsibilities for placing and maintaining hydration stations in Renaissance charter school buildings?</li><li>• What are the total costs associated with the environmental safety improvement plan?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We are required by the EPA under the AHERA regulations and by the City of Philadelphia under the Asbestos Control Regulations to provide contractor oversight that includes air monitoring and enforcement of regulations during all phases of asbestos abatement activity. The requirements for testing vary with project size. For example, TEM sampling is required for major projects while PCM is required for everything less than major projects. We always follow the most stringent standards. The EPA and City regulations are considered the industry standard although there is debate on the increased "best practices" that includes use of TEM testing for projects where this testing is NOT required to allow for more careful evaluation of the air for any remaining asbestos strands. The District often uses TEM testing in joint tests with the PFT and for large projects.</li><li>• We are responsible for the testing of the water source in Renaissance Charter schools. The license agreements vary on the responsibility for the correction of the issue if a high level is found.</li><li>• Total costs pending.</li></ul>

# Environmental Safety Improvement Plan Update

- Strengthening the AHERA Process
  - 23 inspections complete
  - 34 imminent hazards identified at 10 schools
  - 33 imminent hazards resolved
    - Carnell gym storage area remaining and has been closed off until abatement occurs
  - Inspection process on brief pause to conduct QA/QC review and also work jointly with the PFT on response and communication procedure improvements. Inspections will begin again on January 27th.
- FAC and Principal Inspections
  - Completed 12/20/2019
  - 25 imminent hazards identified at 17 schools
  - 24 imminent hazards resolved
    - Roxborough attic remaining and has been closed off as well as classroom below it until abatement occurs

# Environmental Safety Improvement Plan Update

- “See something, Say Something”
  - Hotline and Email being established
  - Campaign roll-out set for February
- Training for Facility Area Coordinators and Building Engineers
  - Complete
- Expanding Resources
  - New District Staff in place or being recruited
  - New outside testing firms to be added pending Board approval
  - Additional abatement contractor capacity to be added pending Board approval
  - Target start up of backlog reduction program in mid-February

# Environmental Safety Improvement Plan Update

- Review of Construction Projects for Environmental Scope
  - Project Underway
  - Seven scopes adjusted or expanded
- Program Management Firm for the Proposed Capital Spending Plan
  - Interviews completed January 8
  - Recommendation needs Board approval
- Formation of an Environmental Advisory Board
  - Scope/Role for the Board developed
- Engaged Doctor Arthur Frank
  - Work underway and planned

# Environmental Safety Improvement Plan Update

- Proactive Communication on Capital and Environmental Projects
  - More interactive communication underway for asbestos projects
  - Updates to stakeholders planned for this month for each capital project under construction
- Website Updates
  - Construction project updates continue
  - Environmental data targeted for faster posting
- Relocation Site Identification
  - Work underway to develop draft criteria for relocating and process
  - Assessments underway for alternative sites



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***Thank you for your continued support!***