

Belleville Henderson Central School District

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December 5, 2024

Dear Belleville Henderson Community Members,

Maintaining a healthy and safe school environment is one of our top priorities. In the interest of transparency, we would like to communicate to you several health related remediation matters that have been undertaken over the past several weeks.

On Thursday, November 21st, a section of back wall of Room 101 was opened up as part of an investigation into suspected mold growth. On Friday, November 22nd, traces of mold were confirmed to have been found between the walls of Classrooms 101 and 103. As a result, Pre-Kindergarten classroom students and adults were relocated to a different area of the school on Wednesday, November 20. A first-grade classroom of students and adults in Room 103 were also relocated following Thanksgiving vacation.

Prior to remediation, air testing and monitoring were conducted to compare the outdoor air quality conditions to the indoor air quality of the affected areas. The testing revealed the total spore count indoors was significantly lower than the outdoor spore count recorded the same day. This indicates a lower likelihood of mold exposure inside the building compared to typical outdoor conditions.

Upon discovery of the mold, Paul Davis Restoration was contacted to conduct an abatement process, which was undertaken on Wednesday, November 27 and Friday, November 29. Air scrubbers were placed both inside and outside of construction and abatement areas. Clearance inspections and air monitoring conducted by Rockwell Indoor Environmental confirmed 1) no remaining contamination or damage and 2) indoor air samples were consistent with outdoor baseline levels, confirming the successful removal of mold spores.

Earlier this month, in an unrelated matter, an odor was detected in Room 107. After removal of the classroom univents and a thorough investigation of the entire area, it was determined that wet ground moss growing outside was the source of the odor. Upon recommendation, the ground moss was quickly removed and replaced with stone to improve drainage and deter moss growth. The uninvent filters in Classroom 107 were also replaced to enhance air quality.

The District has been working closely with a Jefferson-Lewis BOCES' Health and Safety Department on both the mold remediation and the ground moss odor investigations.

Reports of this process from Paul Davis Restoration, Rockwell Indoor Environmental, and Jefferson-Lewis BOCES Health and Safety Department will be posted on the Belleville Henderson website once received from the parties.

We are taking these steps to maintain a healthy and safe environment for both our young learners and our staff. We will continue to update you throughout the process on any additional developments. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the District office.

Sincerely,

Jane Collins.