



Scranton School District

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Superintendent

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Dear Scranton School District Students, Staff, and Community,

As you know, recent environmental testing has revealed some issues in our schools. This testing was part of our already established protocol to identify issues. With students, staff, and visitors in mind, we are working with our environmental experts to continue to ensure the safety of all who use our buildings.

Our facilities staff and building administrators are currently taking action as recommended by Guzek Associates to address potentially unsafe conditions. The Board of Education and administration remain committed to the development and implementation of immediate and long-range plans that provide a safe environment in our facilities.

Each December, the drinking water in our district is tested for lead content. As results were received, immediate action was taken. Fountains and sinks were taken out of service where possible. In a few circumstances, sinks were left active for washing hands. All sinks and fountains are properly labeled.

Every three years, district buildings are inspected for asbestos. Due to the age of our facilities, fifteen buildings have asbestos, mostly within pipe fittings and insulation, flooring mastic, and plaster. Asbestos poses a risk when it becomes damaged or disturbed. If asbestos-containing materials are found to be damaged, we work with environmental professionals to perform the required remediation. This past fall, high-priority remediations were performed at Northeast Scranton Intermediate School, South Scranton Intermediate School, West Scranton High School, and Robert Morris Elementary.

Our district has been working with Guzek Associates to develop a plan to address the many areas that will require asbestos remediation. We are in the process of developing bid specifications for the safe removal or encapsulation of asbestos materials to ensure all areas needing attention receive appropriate action.

To ensure the safety of all students, staff, and visitors, we will engage an environmental company in the immediate future to perform updated air quality testing in all district facilities identified as having asbestos.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation as we work through this difficult time.