

June 25, 2009

Dear Oak Ridge Parents and Staff Members:

We wanted to give you a quick update regarding Oak Ridge Elementary School. To recap a few things quickly:

- NIOSH referred us to our local arm of OSHA. OSHA has referred us to another agency, the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NC DENR). We have contacted that group as well. At this point in time, it's not clear what assistance we will receive from these agencies. We will keep you posted as more information becomes available.
- We have sent a binder full of documents and test results to NIOSH, per their request and for their review. Again, we will keep you posted as to any recommendations or guidance we receive from NIOSH.
- We received notice from the North Carolina Department of Labor that an employee or a group of employees at Oak Ridge Elementary have filed a complaint alleging unsafe working conditions. The notice and the district's response to the notice are posted on the Oak Ridge environmental concerns Web site. The complaint notice, response letter and supporting documents will be available for public inspection at Northwest Middle School in Ann Kraft's temporary office.
- The facilities department is in the process of identifying and checking references for national firms with IAQ and environmental health expertise. This work is ongoing as of this email; we will share the identified firms once the initial process has been completed.
- We hope to have meetings scheduled with all three parent/staff committees next week to get them involved in the final selection process.
- Maintenance is repairing the drain on the gym wall that was leaking. That work should be completed this week. Part of the inside wall was taken down to allow an examination. No mold was visible.
- The hood exhaust fan in the cafeteria at ORE is need of repair. Maintenance will be on site this afternoon to fix this.
- We have started posting maintenance updates on the Oak Ridge Environmental concerns Web site to keep parents and staff informed.
- The next step includes replacing carpet with tile, cleaning the ductwork and re-commissioning the HVAC system. We would like a national firm or firm(s) to handle the HVAC system.
- We are waiting to do any additional testing until: a) we receive guidance from NIOSH or other national experts; and, b) we complete the work required to complete the recommendations already shared by various experts. We will not reopen the building until additional tests IAQ tests have been done.

Again, thank you for your interest in and support of Oak Ridge.

Sincerely,

Nora Carr
Chief of Staff