















From:  Janet Delmar February 2, 2017 12:56:26 PM 

Subject: 2/2/17 AQM update

To:  Janet Delmar

Bcc:  MES PREK 2016  MES Kindergarten 2016  MES Gr 1 2016  
 MES Gr 2 2016  MES Gr 3 2016  MES GR 4 - 2016  
 MES Gr 5 2016  Manchester Staff  Donna Wolfrom  
 Donna Foster  Diane MacGregor

Dear Manchester Families and Staff,

Below is the latest communication from AQM. We are making plans at the present to follow the recommendations. We will update you when more information is available as we are waiting for the most recent carpet testing results. A hardcopy of this email will be going home in students' backpacks today.

Thank you,  
Janet Delmar

----- Original Message -----

Curt,

We have received results from the last round of testing (1/30/17) for air and surface-dust sampling (not carpet-dust sampling). There is no significant evidence of airborne mold exposures of concern or atypical airborne mold levels. In some samples there were some minor elevations of common outdoor-type mold spores (for example, Ascospores, Basidiospores, Cladosporium, and Myxomycete Group). This is commonly seen in winter months when outdoor mold levels are extremely low due to winter conditions and snow cover. For example, outdoor Basidiospore levels are usually in the thousands to tens of thousands during warmer months, while they may only be in the hundreds in the winter.

The air sample collected in the Custodian's Office (air sample A5) identified moderately elevated levels of outdoor type mold spores. This is likely due to dirty / dusty conditions. This Office should be closed up until cleaning is provided, to err on the side of most caution (and due to the wall issue as noted next). All surfaces and contents should be cleaned in the Custodian's Office. The wall behind the sink should be removed due to mold growth (refer to surface sample T3). Remove the wall four feet in all directions from the sink and floor to ceiling. Also, loose / dislodged floor tiles should be removed to allow cleaning. Floor tiles are likely to contain asbestos. Please refer to the Asbestos Management Plan to check if these tiles do contain asbestos. If these tiles are not listed in the Asbestos Management Plan, then they will have to be presumed positive or tested to determine content. If positive, they will have to be removed in accordance with State of Maine DEP Asbestos Management Regulations.

As for settled dust sampling, varying levels of mold spores were identified in settled dust. The spores identified were common outdoor types which is consistent with deposition from the outdoors (outdoor air infiltration, open windows, etc.). Spore levels were higher in some areas versus others, likely due to greater amounts of dust (consistent with visual observations of dusty surfaces). Dust does not pose any particular health concerns but may contain common allergens and irritants (including mold spores). These Classrooms should be cleaned to address dusty conditions as a pro-active measure. Additional cleaning may also be advisable – e.g. duct / mechanical system cleaning, if deemed necessary.

AQM did observe a couple of issues during this testing event. There are wall-mounted AC units in MacGregor / Vining /

Boudreau Offices and in the IT / Hub Room. AQM observed what appeared to be mold growth in these AC Units and collected surface samples from inside them.

Analysis of the sample collected in the IT / Hub Room (surface sample T1) identified high concentrations of Cladosporium (mold) & Yeast growth due to dampness and condensation. The AC Unit should be de-energized for dismantling and cleaning (as soon as possible). Items from inside this Room should be cleaned prior to relocating. As the time of sampling, the air sample in this Room (air sample A9) did not identify elevated levels of mold spores; this would suggest the AC Unit is not continuously or substantially affecting air quality. Even though air sample result is considered fine, AQM still recommends the Room be detail cleaned to err on the side of most caution.

The sample collected from the AC Units in MacGregor / Vining / Boudreau Rooms (surface sample T9) did not identify mold growth but did identify a low concentration of Chaetomium mold spores. This type of mold spore is often associated with water damage or indoor growth. These Units did not appear to be currently in use and therefore exposure to these spores is not expected. AQM recommends isolating these Units by turning the power off to them (ensuring that they cannot be energized) and covering them with plastic sheeting. The Units will then have to be dismantled to thoroughly clean during the cleaning process to address dusty conditions inside these Rooms.

Carpet dust sample results should be available by the end of this week or beginning of next week. This is due to the time required for laboratory incubation and analysis. I will report these results when received.

Please let me know if you have any questions. The final report should be ready shortly after receipt of carpet dust samples.

Respectfully,

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