



June 1, 2017

Dear Bridgeport Elementary School Community:

I want to update you regarding some water intrusion concerns on campus, and related plans to improve our Bridgeport classrooms. As you may know, moisture was observed in the flooring in some classrooms, and teachers and staff reported noticing an odor in a handful of classrooms, which prompted us to engage experts to conduct indoor air quality tests. A team of experts moved quickly and responsibly to conduct and complete the air and surface testing on Sunday, May 7, 2017.

Test results showed that classroom indoor air quality is within healthy limits; the samples taken from wet flooring and the concrete slab foundation showed no signs of mold; and we confirmed that the classrooms are safe to occupy. Our goal remains to fully address the issue as swiftly as possible. Our progress to date and next steps include:

Ventilation - The experts indicated that outdoor air intakes for air handling units supplying outdoor air into the classrooms needed to be adjusted to maximize the supply of outdoor air to the classrooms. These adjustments have already been made.

Odor - Upon the recommendations of the experts, further tests were conducted on carpet tile samples to help identify the possible source of the reported odors. These tests confirmed the presence of a chemical compound known to cause odors under similar circumstances. A full report can be found online (<http://www.saugusd.org/Departments/Business-Services-/Maintenance--Operations/index.html>). While emission testing and experts confirmed that the presence of this compound does not present health concerns, this additional testing assisted us in identifying the cause of the odor and next steps to address it.

Plans for Summer Break and Beyond - Our ultimate goal is to combat the underlying water intrusion issue that is causing the presence of moisture in some classrooms, and to quickly take measures to resolve that issue. We engaged a geotechnical team who will be on site the first week of June. They will investigate the source of the water intrusion and prepare appropriate treatment recommendations. We also engaged a flooring consultant to work with the geotechnical team to ensure that the concrete is properly sealed and that all appropriate measures are implemented to prevent future moisture intrusion.

We are looking forward to working on these improvements over the summer and will provide an update on our summer work in early August, before you return to school. In the meantime, please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions. You can reach me at 661-294-5300 or nheinlein@saugusd.org.

Respectfully,

Nick Heinlein
Assistant Superintendent, Business