



PEABODY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Notice to Center School Community - April 5, 2025

On March 28, 2025 an independent air quality test was conducted in the preschool classrooms and the gymnasium of the Center School. Based on the inspector's education, training, and experience, several observations and conclusions were made about the work area.

- The areas are dry and clean.
- The small section of the gym roof had minor visible damage.
- Some visible paint chipped in ceiling.
- The ceiling system has stains

According to laboratory analysis of collected air samples, fungal spore counts (specifically Aspergillus/Penicillium) in air samples from some areas sampled at the time of the visit were higher than those in outdoor air samples. While these levels are higher than those found outdoors, we want to assure you there is no immediate health risk.

The report recommends that these areas need more ventilation and a new review in the future. Laboratory analytical data and chain of custody records are attached to the report which is posted on our school website.

In consultation with the Health Department the following recommendations will be implemented:

What We Are Doing to Improve Air Quality:

- 1. Improving Ventilation:** We are repairing non-functioning exhaust fans to improve airflow and reduce stagnant air in affected areas.
- 2. Installing Air Purifiers:** HEPA-grade air purifiers will immediately be placed in all classrooms and the gym to actively filter airborne spores and improve air quality.
- 3. Moisture Inspections:** We are checking for any hidden leaks or areas with high humidity that may contribute to air quality issues.
- 4. Ongoing Monitoring:** Follow-up air quality testing will be conducted in the coming weeks.
- 5. We are committed to implementing the recommendations from the Health Department letter from March 6, 2025.**

What You Can Do:

- Open classroom doors and windows when possible to help increase airflow.
- Minimize the use of fabrics, carpets, or stacks of paper, as these can trap moisture and spores.

If you have any questions, please contact the Peabody Health Department at 978-538-5926.

H.O.P.E.

Every Student, Every Day.

www.peabody.k12.ma.us