



WOODBURY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A Leader in Personalizing Education

April 25, 2019

Dear Parents and Staff,

I am writing as a follow up to the advisory letter I sent out to you on April 3rd regarding the closing of the Gold Cafeteria in the Jr./Sr. High School due to concerns about the possible presence of mercury in the rubberized floor in that room. I indicated that we would be closing that room pending tests to insure its safety. We henceforth contracted with EPIC Environmental, a company who specializes in this type of testing. The testing was conducted on April 8th. The results indicated that the presence of mercury vapors was 0.1ug/m parts per billion, well below the Department of Health's recommendation of 0.8 ug/m parts per billion. The report advised that "no corrective measures or actions" were needed. However, they highly recommended that a "second set of samples from the same locations under high temperature , on ventilation – *worst case* conditions as outlined in the *Mercury Hazard in Schools form Rubber-like Polyurethane Floors – Health Safety Guide* be conducted during the summer months.

Accordingly, and in keeping with our conviction in using an abundance of caution, the board has decided that the Gold Cafeteria will remain closed for the remainder of the school year until such recommended testing can be completed. It is understood that although this does require that we continue with some of the inconveniences in rescheduling the locations of some of our lunch periods it is felt that ensuring a safe environment has to be our first and foremost responsibility in this matter. Once the testing is completed in the summer the Superintendent's office will share those results and requisite actions to be taken at that time. For your reference, the report from epic environmental has been posted on our website.

Once again I appreciate everyone's cooperation and understanding in this matter. If anyone should have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Thomas A. Coleman, Jr.
Interim Superintendent