



WOODBURY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A Leader in Personalizing Education

August 29, 2019

Dear Parents and Staff,

As you may or may not be aware, in early April 2019, the district made a decision to close the Gold Cafeteria in the Junior-Senior High School due to concerns about the possible presence of mercury in the rubberized floor in that room. At that time, we contracted with EPIC Environmental to conduct testing on the flooring. The results were favorable and indicated that the presence of mercury vapors were well below the Department of Health's recommendation, and that "no corrective measures or actions" were needed. There was, however, a strong recommendation that a second test from the same locations of flooring be conducted during the summer months under high temperatures – *worst case* conditions as outlined in the *Mercury Hazard in Schools from Rubber-like Polyurethane Floors – Health Safety Guide*. Therefore, although the test indicated the floors were safe, in the interest of student safety, the decision was made to keep the cafeteria closed until further testing could be conducted during the summer months.

A second test was completed during what would be considered worst case scenario conditions when the mercury would be elevated – a hot day on July 8, 2019. The results remained very favorable at <0.12ug/m parts per billion. This is well below the Department of Health's recommendation of 0.8 ug/m parts per billion. The area has been deemed completely safe with no restrictions on occupancy. We are pleased to announce that the recommendation has been made to reopen the cafeteria for the 2019-2020 school year.

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact the Board Office.

Sincerely,

Andrew T. Bell, Sr.
Superintendent

Attachment: Epic Environmental Report (dated July 19, 2019)



July 19, 2019

Mr. Charles Alter
Facilities Director
Woodbury Public Schools
25 N. Broad Street
Woodbury, NJ 08096

**RE: Mercury Vapor Air Sampling – “Worst Case Scenario”
Woodbury High School All Purpose Room
Epic Project Numbers: 19-1077**

Dear Mr. Alter:

Epic Environmental Services, LLC collected a total of four air samples plus two blanks on July 8, 2019 in the Woodbury High School to assess mercury vapor concentrations in the All Purpose Room and adjacent area (Kitchen/Serving). Sample collection was performed in accordance with the “Mercury Hazard in Schools from Rubber-like Polyurethane Floors - Health and Safety Guide” for “Worst Case Scenario” evaluation. The ventilation was not operating for a period of eight hours before and during sampling. Temperatures in the sampling area were allowed to rise along with the outdoor temperatures. Maximum outdoor temperatures during sampling were in the high 80°s F. These conditions represent a scenario where maximum levels of mercury vapor are expected to be generated from the rubberized flooring.

Samples were collected for a period of seven hours. The All Purpose was unoccupied while samples were being collected.

Sample were analyzed by EMSL analytical, Inc. using NIOSH Method 6009 for total mercury. Results were compared to the New Jersey Department of Health action limit criteria of 0.8 µg/m³.

No mercury vapors were detected above the method detection limit in any sample. At this time, no corrective measures or actions are recommended. Based on these sample results and the results of the first round of sampling performed in April, no restrictions on occupancy are recommended.

It is recommended that annual sampling of the All Purpose Room be performed in order to document long term mercury exposure concentrations.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 856-205-1077 should you have any questions.

The invoice for the project is attached.

Regards,

James Eberts
President

Michael Menz, CIH, CHMM
Certified Industrial Hygienist
Certification Number 10718

HEALTH

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SAFETY

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ENVIRONMENT

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Sampling Summary

Mercury Vapor – NIOSH Method 6009

July 8, 2019

<u>Sample Location</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Notes / Conditions</u>
All Purpose Room by Exit	< 0.12µg/m ³	Sample Collected 5.0' above floor Temp 78° - 79° F over sampling time Ventilation NOT OPERATING Not Occupied Sample time 7:49 am – 2:58 pm
All Purpose Room by Serving Area	< 0.12µg/m ³	Sample Collected 5.0' above floor Temp 78° - 79° F over sampling time Ventilation NOT OPERATING Not Occupied Sample time 7:49 am – 2:58 pm
Kitchen/Serving Area Doorway	< 0.12µg/m ³	Sample Collected 5.0' above floor Temp 78° - 79° F over sampling time Ventilation NOT OPERATING Not Occupied Sample time 7:50 am – 2:58 pm
Outside in Courtyard	N/A	SAMPLE VOIDED
Field Blank 1	“NONE DETECTED”	
Field Blank 2	“NONE DETECTED”	
Outside Temperature	Maximum in high 80°'s F	