



LACEY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

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VANESSA P. CLARK, PH.D.
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

October 19, 2018

Dear Parents of Students at the Mill Pond School:

Recently, New Jersey public school districts were notified that certain synthetic floors installed between 1960 and 1980 may contain mercury and that this mercury may emit a vapor into the air. The synthetic floor in the Mill Pond School gymnasium was installed in 1980.

I am writing to let you know that we authorized the district's indoor air quality consultant, who is intimately familiar and working closely with other school districts across the State on this issue, to perform air sampling within and in the vicinity of the gymnasium.

Air sampling was performed twice in the past week. Although the results on both occasions showed the presence of mercury vapors in the air, the consultant concluded that the levels do not pose a threat to the health and safety of students and staff. As a next step, the consultant recommended that a sample be taken from the floor's surface in order to determine the level of mercury in the floor itself. The results of the floor sample may take up to a week thereafter to be reported.

In the meantime, and using an abundance of precaution, we have closed the Mill Pond School gymnasium until further notice. I know that it is somewhat inconvenient to not have access to the gymnasium; however, we always want to react to a situation in a manner that prioritizes the safety of our students and staff. When weather permits, students will be participating in physical education classes outdoors. When this is not possible, physical education teachers will conduct classes indoors in areas that will permit maximum movement.

As soon as more information is available, it will be communicated in a timely manner.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Vanessa P. Clark, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools