

## Mold Update: September 14, 2018

Due to additional mold findings at the HS/MS, school is cancelled on

Monday, September 17th, and Tuesday, September 18th.

Outdoor extracurricular activities will continue as scheduled by the coaches and advisors.

The District contracted with the American Abatement Group, Inc. (AAG, Inc.) to clean and filter the areas of concern identified on Wednesday, September 12th. As SHC maintenance staff conducted routine cleaning yesterday and today, significant mold was found in various regions throughout the HS/MS. Upon further inspection, patches of mold were found on the undersides of furniture throughout the building. AAG, Inc. is adding additional crews to prep the building for Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) surveys on Monday, September 17th. The turnaround time for an IAQ survey is a minimum of twenty-four hours.

The inordinate amount of rain has created above average building air moisture levels. Steps are being implemented to decrease the humidity in the building by reprogramming chiller temperatures and adding dehumidifiers to a few small problem areas. Dehumidifying a commercial size building with traditional dehumidifiers is not effective. AAG, Inc. cleans, sanitizes, and temporarily operates filtering systems that remove mold spores at a rate of two thousand cubic feet per minute in each abated room.

Before re-opening the HS/MS, the IAQ surveys must indicate un-elevated mold spore counts in regions where students and staff will be present. In cooperation with the faculty and staff, the district administrative team developed a plan to use alternate spaces such as, the auxiliary gymnasium, auditorium, and library as temporary classrooms. The magnitude of the current mold problem prevents implementation of the temporary classroom plan. Cumberland Analytical Laboratories, the IAQ survey firm, will diagnose and advise the administration on adjustment strategies based upon IAQ survey findings.

The superintendent and maintenance supervisor will update the Board during the regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 19, 2018. The meeting has been moved to the Rockhill Elementary School gymnasium. In the event the mold is not successfully remediated, the administration will bring a plan to the School Board. The plan may include options for Act 80 days, and the possibility of keeping the elementary buildings open. Act 80 days are for teacher professional development and count as a student day.