

BOARD BRIEF

Date: October 15, 2021

BOARD INFORMATION: X

MEETING PREPARATION: _____

FROM: John Contreras, Director of Safety and Security Services

THROUGH: Dr. Alicia Hart, Executive Director of Facilities and Operations
Stephen M. Wilkins, Ed.D., Chief of Staff
Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Meagan L. Alderton, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: Indoor Air Quality Testing and Results Update

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

- Goal 1: Systemic Alignment
- Goal 3: Student Accessibility and Support
- Goal 4: Strategic Resource Allocation
- Goal 5: Family and Community Engagement

SY 2021-2022 FOCUS AREA:

N/A

FY 2022 BUDGET PRIORITY:

Implementation of 2025 Strategic Plan

SUMMARY:

As part of the Department of Facilities and Operations continued efforts to assess, monitor and improve Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) within our facilities, the Office of Safety and Security Services completed targeted IAQ sampling at all school locations from the end of August 2021-September 2021. The IAQ targeted sampling effort was implemented through a third-party environmental contractor, Total Environmental Concepts Inc (TEC). Testing samples were taken in select areas of each facility; sampling locations were selected to collect representative IAQ data in these specific areas and to document any areas of potential concern observed during the site assessment. All samples were prepared by TEC for shipment to a NVLAP (National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program) accredited laboratory under strict chain-of-custody.

ACPS required TEC to measure the following major indoor air pollutants:

- Radon
- Mold

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- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's)
- 4-polycyclohexene (4-pch)
- Formaldehyde

In accordance with the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) IAQ guidelines and recommendations, TEC also took measurements of the following at each school:

- Carbon Monoxide
- Carbon Dioxide
- Humidity
- Temperature
- Oxygen

Final results received from TEC show that most areas tested division-wide were within acceptable ranges in comparison to EPA, LEED and/or ASHRAE standards and guidelines. Any exceptions have been highlighted in Attachment 1 "IAQ Brief Summary Table of Results". The appropriate remediation activities, retesting and clearance has already occurred for the Charles Barrett Elementary School classroom where elevated levels of mold was detected through this process. We will continue to monitor any other area of noted concern (where anomalies were noted yet not displaying elevated levels); if monitoring shows need for remediation, we will move forward accordingly.

TEC provided a full, detailed report of testing analysis for each school. Each report contains an Executive Summary, Summary of Findings, Assessment Methods, Visual Observations, other analytical material and detailed lab analysis results. The full report for every school, including lab results, will be posted to the Safety and Security Services webpage on or before Monday, 10/25/21.

BACKGROUND:

Per the Board Brief submitted on August 13, 2021 related to Ventilation/IAQ Updates:

To continue our efforts of indoor air quality management, the Department of Facilities and Operations contracted with an environmental consultant to perform targeted sampling at all school locations. The sampling includes testing for air, radon and mold and began the week of August 9, 2021. While it was intended to begin this effort earlier in the summer, the environmental consultant encountered supply chain issues related to necessary materials to complete sampling. It is important to note that Covid-related supply chain delays are being experienced nationwide and are not unique to ACPS projects. Completion of sampling, to include formal analysis reports, is anticipated by September 15, 2021. As the environmental consultant performs sampling and receives initial analysis, updates will be provided to the Department. Any immediate areas of concern will be addressed in advance of final summative reports. All reports will be posted to the Office of Safety and Security webpage once received.

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review the

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information contained in this Board Brief as well as the corresponding attachment.

IMPACT:

Maintaining ventilation/HVAC systems, building exteriors and promoting positive Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) is important for the safe return of students, staff and visitors to all ACPS facilities.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: IAQ Brief Summary Table of Results

CONTACT:

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