

Fairfield Public Schools

Osborn Hill Elementary School – Window Replacement Project

Frequently Asked Questions

August 29, 2012

- Q. What are the US EPA guidelines for children being in a school with PCBs?**
- A.** The guidelines are very detailed and lengthy, however, the two levels we are working with are 300ng/m³ for elementary children and 100ng/m³ for kindergarten children under 6 years old. This is for children sitting in classrooms and/or spaces for 6-8 hours a day all year. Furthermore, these are recommended levels. As stated during the informational public forum, there is a safety factor of 300ng/m³ built in.
- Q. When will we get the latest test results?**
- A.** The latest test results were posted Monday, August 27, and additional test results are due this week.
- Q. Has the ductwork been checked and will it be checked after the abatement is done?**
- A.** The ductwork has gone through a specialized cleaning and has been checked. This work was completed this past weekend.
- Q. How will we be getting books for our children if the LMC is contaminated? Aren't the books also contaminated?**
- The LMC was cleared from PCBs several months ago when testing first began. All books, computers, furniture, and other items throughout the LMC were wipe tested and found to be fine. The ductwork in the LMC went through a specialized cleaning and was checked in a controlled containment barrier protecting everything in the room. The necessary books and materials from the LMC were retrieved.
- Q. Why aren't we waiting until all the work is completed?**
- A.** The work at Osborn Hill School will continue until the PCBs are completely remediated out of the school. Now that they have been identified, we are required to provide an Operation and Maintenance Plan to remediate.
- Q. Why aren't we waiting for the building to be certified ok by an outside agency?**
- A.** The CT DPH approved our plan along with the Fairfield Health Director. The US EPA and the CT DEEP support the approval.
- Q. Options: What are they? Can I send my child to McKinley?**
- A.** You can opt out of Osborn Hill School into McKinley School through the Instructional Office. They can provide you with the application and space availability.
- Q. Is testing going to continue even after school opens? Is testing going to happen throughout the school year?**
- A.** Yes, testing and investigation will continue and are a major part of the Operation and Maintenance Plan for the school. All of this information is part of the project that is submitted to the US EPA, CT DEEP, CT DPH, and the local Health Director.