Middle School Report

JUNE 4,1998

On June 4,1998 at about 1:00 p.m. the Director was contacted to report to the Middle School . It appears that there was a problem with some type of an odor that was making the students in Room 114 ill . Upon arrival at the school I was met by Captain Flanagan who advised me that his men were in the room taking test of the air in that room. He also said that they didn't detect any odor in the room when they arrived. At this point I observed the students in the library area that were effected by the odors. Several of them complained of being dizzy and sick ,and had thrown up. I then went to the classroom where I ,and some of the firefighters went through the room trying to find the source of the problem . Chief Powers also was there and went through the room and other sections of the building trying to find a possible source of this problem .

Not being able to find the source of the problem it was decided by the Fire Department School Officials and myself to take precautionary action and have those students effected by the odor sent to the hospital to be checked . We also decided to call the Department of Environmental Protection and have one of their environmental engineers come to the school to do some testing . A Mr. Victor Fonkem from D.E.P. Arrived at the school at about 3:00p.m. and went directly to the room in question . He tested the air in this room for volatile components ,his results were negative. We then went to the area outside the school where the windows of the classroom are . He tested this area ,also the dumpster and again had negative results . This area is a loading ramp for the school , and large trucks deliver to the school in this area. We returned to the office area and reported the results of his testing to the Fire Chief and School Officials . We then inquired if there were any deliveries made to this area within the last two hours ,and there were. We then felt that this could have caused the problem . The fumes from the truck could have been sucked into the room causing the students, and the teacher to become ill. (Mr.Fonkem will send us a written report of his findings)
He suggested that all the windows of the school be closed over night ,and then check the room in the morning for any strange odors . I then returned to the office and notified the State Department of Public Health of the situation (Ms. Joan Roth) I received a call right back from a Mr. Michael Feeney of the Bureau of Environmental Health Assessments . He said that he would meet me at the school at 7:30 a.m. with his equipment and test those areas of the school where the problem existed. We met at the Middle School on June 5,1998 at 7:30 a.m. with the following present (Superintendent :Connolly ,Mr. Towlson, Mr. Principal Giancristiano , Mr. Mark Wallace , Mr. Robert Trainor ,Chief Powers , Mrs. Jeanne Maggio of the Board of Health). Mr. Feeney then proceeded to test the following rooms for air

quality 113,114,115, 213,214 215 also the shop area under the classroom in question.

Mr. Feeney could not detect anything that could cause anyone to become ill in all the rooms. He did feel that the trucks left running in the delivery could cause a problem if the windows were open ,or if the fumes were sucked into the intakes of the air exchange system . Mr. Feeney also made some suggestions .

1. All old and out dated chemicals have to be removed .
2. All trucks be re scheduled to non school hours.
3. All unused drains be capped off to stop any backup of sewer odors.
4. When the vent systems are in use the air intake systems should also be on

Mr. Feeney will send us a complete report of his test results,and also to the School Department . School was in full session on June 5,1998.

NOTE : All Members of the Board of Health were present at the school on June 4,1998 (Mr. Hazlett , Mr. Hayes ,and Mrs. Maggio)

William P. Frazier

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Director of Public Health

Town Of Winthrop
Board of Health

COPY

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Ralph E. Sirianni, *Chairman*
Edward A. Hazlett
William E. Hayes

May 13 ,1997

Winthrop School Committee
E. B. Newton School
Pauline Street
Winthrop , Mass. 02152

Attention : Dr. Connolly ,

On May 13 ,1997 the Winthrop Board of Health Conducted another inspection of the Winthrop Middle School . This inspection was conducted in the presents of Mr. Giancristiano , Mr. Calli , and Mr. Wallace . During this inspection the following conditions were observed .

1. In the Gym area it was observed that the Girls locker room was not swept . The Boys toilet was not cleaned , there was urin left in the bowls causing a foul odor , also there were no hand towels available in this room . The cover for the drain in the floor is missing ,and the floor was not cleaned .
2. The hallway outside the Gym , and the steps leading to the Auditorium were not cleaned . (there were papers ,dust and stains present in these areas)
3. An inspection of the Drama room was conducted and again it was observed that the floor wasn't properly swept . There was dust and debris around the edges and under the desk. I also noticed that there were candy wrappers and other debris left on the counters.
4. In the main building it was observed that the hall floors are not being properly cleaned . There were dust balls in the corners , and stains on the floors that had not mopped . The same goes for the stairways.
5. Classrooms that were inspected , and were found unacceptable as far as being properly swept and spot mopped are , 102 - 112 - 110 - 111 - 113 - 114 - 115 - this last room has lab sinks that are filled with weeks of trash buildup , also the small storage holes in the front of the desk are filled with trash . Other classrooms that were inspected and found unacceptable were 108 - 106 - 209 - 210 - 213 but 204 and 201 were found to be O.K.
6. The Girls toilet on the first floor was cleaned ,but it appeared that it was cleaned with a dirty mop or with dirty water.
7. The boys room on the first floor had a odor as if it was not properly disinfected .

The Winthrop Board of Health is not satisfied with the condition of this school . It appears to us that that someone is not doing their work properly , or that the system being used to clean the school needs to be adjusted . Once again we suggest that one person be placed in charge of this problem who can over see all the schools , and is responsible for there cleanness . Your continued cooperation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

William P. Frazier

William P. Frazier

Director of Public Health

cc School Committee: Joe Clark ,Chairman
Mr. Giancristano
Mr. M. Wallace
Mr. Calli

DUDLEY SERVICES INC.

Asbestos Abatement Professionals
P.O. Box 132
Arlington, MA 02476
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MA Lic # AC 000112

DATE: 1-19-2012

TO: Winthrop Board of Health

FAX NO.:

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Please make note that we have notified the Division of Occupational Safety and the Department of Environmental Protection with form ANF-001 regarding an asbestos abatement project to be performed in your city/town. Please feel free to call if you have any questions regarding this notification.

Sincerely,
Samuel J. Nirgro III
President Dudley Services Inc.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
Bureau of Environmental Health
250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108-4619
Phone: 617-624-5757 Fax: 617-624-5777
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SECRETARY

LAUREN A. SMITH, MD, MPH
INTERIM COMMISSIONER

January 23. 2013

Eric Moore, Public Health Administrator
Winthrop Board of Health
Town Hall
1 Metcalf Square, Room 5
Winthrop, MA 02152

Dear Mr. Moore:

Enclosed is a copy of the report by our Indoor Air Quality Program on their visit to the Winthrop Middle School, 151 Pauline Street, Winthrop, Massachusetts to conduct an indoor air quality assessment. Please refer to the recommendations section for advice on how to correct issues identified by this assessment.

If you have any questions regarding the report or if we can be of further assistance in this matter, please feel free to call us at (617) 624-5757.

Sincerely,

Suzanne K. Condon, Associate Commissioner
Director, Bureau of Environmental Health

cc:

Mike Feeney, Director, Indoor Air Quality Program, BEH
Steven Hughes, Director, Community Sanitation Program, BEH
John J. Macero, Superintendent, Winthrop Public Schools
Martha G. Kelleher, Principal, Winthrop Middle School
Hon. Senator Anthony Petruccelli
Hon. Representative Robert A. DeLeo

Enclosure(s)