



January 25, 2017

Mr. John Chadwick
Assistant Superintendent, Facilities and Operations
Arlington Public Schools
2770 South Taylor Street
Arlington, Virginia 22206

Reference: Abingdon Elementary School, 3035 S. Abingdon Street, Arlington, Virginia

Dear Mr. Chadwick:

Following a breach of asbestos protocols by a subcontractor at Abingdon Elementary School on Tuesday, January 24, 2017, APS authorized immediate testing by ECS, a licensed environmental testing vendor, to ensure that the school would be safe for occupancy.

While awaiting the outcome of the test results, APS closed Abingdon Elementary on Wednesday, January 25, 2017. Abingdon shall remain closed until acceptable test results are received and validated. Testing was performed in the contained area where the breach occurred and in adjacent corridors and spaces to identify whether any suspect asbestos-containing material was carried into other parts of the school on shoes or by air movement.

The initial samples collected were PCM (Phase Contrast Microscopy) air tests which measure the level of fibers in the air. These samples can be analyzed quickly to identify airborne hazards. Air samples were also collected for TEM (Transmission Electron Microscopy) analysis. These samples can positively identify asbestos fibers (referred to as "structures") and are more sensitive than PCM, but take longer to analyze. Samples of dust from the floor were also collected for analysis by PLM (Polarized Light Microscopy) to check for tracking of asbestos material beyond the immediate area of disturbance.

APS also informed OSHA of the breach, and they will be conducting appropriate investigations into the breach and reporting back their findings to APS and other stakeholders.

Summaries of the test results are attached. Below is a brief explanation of the test results. Both the EPA and Commonwealth of Virginia have the same requirements for acceptable sample results in occupied schools.

- For PCM air samples, results must be less than 0.01 fibers per cubic centimeter (f/cc). The initial PCM sample results ranged from 0.002 to 0.005, below the 0.01 threshold.
- For TEM analysis, concentrations must be less than 70 structures per square millimeter (s/mm²). The results of all sixteen (16) air samples were less than 15 s/mm² and there were no asbestos types were detected.
- The dust samples analyzed by PLM found no asbestos in the dust in areas of the school where students have access. This shows that asbestos was not carried on shoes to other parts of the school. Specially trained and licensed asbestos contractors are cleaning the isolated construction areas before anyone is allowed back into the school, to prevent any tracking in the future.

Abingdon Elementary School
January 25, 2017

The collected sample results do not identify an asbestos hazard that would make Abingdon Elementary School unsafe for occupancy. Based on these results, APS will reopen the school Thursday, January 26, 2017.

ECS MID-ATLANTIC, LLC



Diana D. Krass
Senior Industrial Hygiene Manager



Stephen R. Geraci
Environmental Regional Manager



Analytical Sample Results

Project Number: 47:1946-F
Abingdon Elementary School
Project Address: Arlington, Virginia

Date: 1/25/2017
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Air Samples

Sample Location	PCM result	TEM Result
Classroom 161	0.002	<15 s/mm2
Classroom 162	<0.001	<15 s/mm2
Classroom 163	0.004	<15 s/mm2
Classroom 164	0.005	<15 s/mm2
Classroom 165	0.002	<15 s/mm2
Hallway outside Classroom 161	0.005	<15 s/mm2
Hallway outside Classroom 162	0.002	<15 s/mm2
Hallway outside Classroom 164	0.005	<15 s/mm2
Hallway outside Classroom 165	0.002	<15 s/mm2
Hallway outside Electrical Room 181	0.004	<15 s/mm2
Library, Reception Desk area	0.005	<15 s/mm2
Library, Fiction area	0.002	<15 s/mm2
Library, Non-Fiction area	0.002	<15 s/mm2
Computer Lab 200	0.002	<15 s/mm2
Elevated walkway outside Computer Lab	0.004	<15 s/mm2
North Hallway near Classroom 134	0.002	<15 s/mm2
Field Blank	NFD	NAD
Field Blank	NFD	NAD

Bulk Samples of Floor Dust

Sample Location	PLM result
Hallway outside Classroom 161	NAD
Hallway outside Classroom 162/163	NAD
Hallway outside Classroom 164	NAD
Hallway outside Classroom 165	NAD
Hallway outside Storage Room 179	NAD
Hallway/Stairwell outside Electrical Room 181	NAD
Cafeteria Entrance	NAD
Cafeteria, north exit	NAD
Cafeteria Kitchen near Kitchen Office	NAD

Notes:

NAD = No Asbestos Detected

NFD = No Fibers Detected