May 2, 2016

To Families and Staff regarding the Health Department letter sent to the district last week:

I became aware of a letter from the Health Department cautioning pregnant mothers and children under the age of 3 from being in the Annex and Room 11 on Friday afternoon. Obviously I would have preferred to know sooner; when I talked to Amanda from the Health Department, she assured me in the future she would communicate with me immediately.

From what I know talking to Amanda, reading the letter, and asking Gregg Middaugh from PBS Environmental his expert opinion, this is just a precaution for pregnant women and children under 3...and the parameters even for that are for 40 hr/wk exposure.

I was also told it would be reasonable to think we could retest now and find the problem solved from the deep cleaning that has been complete in the Annex for a while now...the Health Dept. was responding to the report - not to the facts as they are today, with deep cleaning already completed.

I have asked about immediate retesting, and am waiting to hear how quickly we can get that done.

I apologize some of you had to hear about this through social media rather than from me, had I known I assure you I would have let everyone know sooner. I hope to know more later today.

In the meantime, if you are a pregnant mother or have children under the age of three, the Health Department recommends you not spend time in the Annex or in Room 11. I hope to have test results reassuring you everything is fine ASAP! Again, please keep in mind the recommendation is a precaution based on 8 hours per day, 5 days a week exposure.

Thank You,
Karen