



August 16, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendent of Education

FROM: Education Suruhanu

SUBJECT: Compliant concerning presence of mold in the Jose Rios Middle School Gym.

Dear Dr. Bretania Underwood:

My office received a complaint reporting that a student may be getting sick because of being exposed to mold that may be somewhere in the Jose Rios Middle School Gym. The complainant reported that the student was seen by the school nurse sometime last week after complaining of being sick. The complainant believes that the student's exposure to mold at the school may be a contributing factor to the child being sick.

On 16, 2010, I met with Mr. Ewrin Manibusan, an Assistant Principal at the school. We visited the gym and observed that in both the boys and girls shower/change rooms there is a presence of what appears to be mold growing on both of the room's ceilings. However, the presence of mold is more noticeable and wide spread on the girls shower/change room ceiling.

P.L. 28-45 § 4 (12) (i) of The Every Child is Entitled to an Adequate Public Education Act (the Act) states that public schools are required to provide at the minimum, proper sanitation to include flushable toilets, clean restrooms, dining areas, and classrooms. In addition, § 4 (12) (I) of the Act requires public schools to provide at the minimum, a healthful, safe, and sanitary learning environment. If what was observed is actually mold, it should be removed immediately in order to come into compliance with the law.

I also informed Mr. Manibusan that any presence of mold should be removed immediately and that close monitoring and removal of any signs of mold should be performed as necessary especially in high risk areas such as the shower/change rooms. In addition, it was observed that the ventilation in both the boys and the girls shower/change rooms may not be sufficient for such area. I would recommend that both areas be assessed to determine what measures can be taken to prevent or minimize the growth of mold and what measures can be taken to improve the ventilation in both areas. Mr. Manibusan indicated that the school would look into the matter and resolve it as quickly as possible. Furthermore, please submit to my office GDOE's proposed plan of action in order to rectify this matter.

I am confident that your office will resolve this matter quickly for the best interest of the students. Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have questions, please feel free to contact my office.

Best regards,


Dominic Terlaje

Office of the Speaker
Judith T. Won Pat, Ed. D.
Date _____
Time _____
Received by _____
8/18/10

30-10-6720

cc:

Jose Rios Middle School Administration