March 6, 2020

Dear Pine Grove Manor School Community:

Earlier this week you received a letter regarding our testing for the presence of mercury in the multi-purpose room of Pine Grove Manor School. Today, I would like to provide an update. Earlier this week, samples of the air in and around the multi-purpose room were taken and the results were received yesterday afternoon. I am happy to inform you that the results indicate that the air in and around the multi-purpose room present no health risk based upon NJ Department of Health guidance.

The equipment used will indicate levels as low as 0.01 micrograms of mercury per cubic meter of air. The Department of Health guidance identifies health risks when exceedances of 0.8 micrograms of mercury per cubic meter of air are present. The highest reading shown in the air at Pine Grove Manor in and around the multi-purpose room was 0.29 micrograms of mercury per cubic meter of air, which is well below the amount identified by the NJ Department of Health as posing a potential health risk to school aged children.

With that being said, as noted in my previous letter, prior tests of the sub-floor in the multi-purpose floor do show the presence of mercury in that floor. While this presence does not mandate removal of the current floor and the sub-floor, we are committed to removing the flooring system and have begun to plan for that project.

Once again, thank you for your support. If you have any questions or would like further information regarding the evaluation and management of mercury-containing floors in New Jersey Schools, you can access the February 14th NJDOE memorandum to schools, the New Jersey Department of Health guidance document and the vapor test results on the Pine Grove Manor website.

Sincerely,

John A. Ravally, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

"Excellence, Opportunity, and Affirmation for Every Child"