

STEVENS FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

6045 Stevens Forest Road • Columbia, MD 21045 • 410-313-6900 • (F) 410-313-6903 • www.hcpss.org/sfes



September 8, 2017

Dear Stevens Forest Families,

This letter serves as a follow-up to two previous letters dated June 14 and July 14, 2017 respectively regarding small specks dispersed along a portion of the wall in one of the small resource instructional areas. As stated in the July 14 letter, Mr. Jeff Klenk, Environmental Specialist, from the HCPSS Office of Safety, Environment, and Risk Management responded, inspected the entire area, and identified the specks as mold.

Mr. Klenk added that there was no known source and that the area had been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. Through our regular monitoring, additional spots were discovered in that same location on Wednesday, September 6, 2017 and were subsequently reported to the appropriate central office staff.

Mr. Klenk and Mr. Todd McMahon, Project Management Specialist, with the HCPSS Office of Building Services inspected the area and determined that the spots, located near a return air and/or exhaust grille, were mold. The cause is thought to be the location of the grille and possible temperature differentials as the chilled air hits the wall. The spotting was disinfected, will be furthered studied with the use of temperature and relative humidity information, and school staff will monitor and clean as necessary until corrective action, most likely the movement of the grille away from the wall to eliminate condensation, is completed.

On a related matter, some mold spots were also discovered on the fins of the metal air supply diffusers in the ceiling of one of the portable classrooms. This portable classroom is primarily used as meeting space for staff and occasionally as an instructional space with students. The cause of the spots is from thermal differentials of the metal diffusers. HCPSS Building Services will clean/disinfect the diffusers and replace if needed.

As I mentioned in the previous letter, we take these types of reports seriously and will provide further details as they become available. Please feel free to contact us at (410) 313-6900 should you have any questions and to visit the IEQ section of our website at <http://sfes.hcpss.org/environment> for more details regarding this process. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ernesto Diaz,
Principal

