



# Rosedale Elementary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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September 6, 2019

Dear Families,

This is a letter to inform you that a small amount of asbestos insulation around a water pipe was disturbed in Kindergarten Room 127. This led to a possible exposure involving the staff and students in the room. We believe that this period was from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Friday.

We believe that the asbestos was disturbed at some time between the end of the school day Thursday and the room's use by a Kindergarten class Friday morning. The room is also used for an Umbrella before-school program.

As soon as staff noticed the disturbance, students and staff were immediately removed from the room. This occurred by 10 a.m. Friday. As we were uncertain as to when we would be allowed access to Room 127, we decided to provide pizza to our FDK students while awaiting access to their belongings.

We turned off the ventilation system. We closed the room to staff and students. Trained HWDSB staff cleaned the area following Ministry of Labour guidelines. We are taking precautions to ensure this will not occur anywhere in our school. This work will be completed before Monday.

HWDSB engaged Pinchin Environmental to conduct air-quality testing. This testing concluded that the air quality is acceptable and the room is safe to occupy. **Students will return to the area Monday because there is no risk of possible exposure.**

The human health effects from long-term unsafe asbestos exposure are well documented. The possible exposure at Rosedale was limited in scope and duration.

The Canadian Centre for Occupational Health & Safety notes that people are more likely to experience asbestos-related disorders if they:

- are exposed to high concentrations of asbestos,
- are exposed for longer periods of time, and/or
- are exposed to asbestos more frequently.

If you have any health concerns, please contact your family doctor. If you wish to discuss this matter, please reach out to me through our school office. Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

Sue Neville, Principal