Martha's Vineyard Public Schools

Excellence and Equity For All Children

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October 10, 2019

Dear Tisbury Families,

Our goal continues to be reuniting the Tisbury School students in a healthy building as soon as possible. In evaluating our options, we have consulted with state and federal agencies such as the EPA and the Department of Labor Standards, along with our Owner's Project Manager and a Lead-Safe Certified Contractor. Throughout this process our priorities have focused on keeping the students safe, minimizing disruption, and holding the school together as much as possible.

With this in mind, the school administration has been working with our Owners Project Manager to develop a plan to remove and encapsulate the peeling and chipping lead paint in the Tisbury School along with restoring the ventilation system. Our goal at this time is to complete the work during the months of November and December, with the school being ready for students in January.

We will procure the services of a Lead-Safe Certified Contractor to complete the work. Initially, my intent was to move the students out of the building prior to completing any work. However, our OPM has previously utilized a work safety system to seal off the area in which the work is taking place and allow for students and staff to occupy the building. I have reached out to the EPA, the Department of Labor Standards, and the Department of Public Health to inquire about the effectiveness of this process. I have been assured that certified lead contractors are trained to utilize this method to keep building occupants safe while the work is completed. Furthermore, the Massachusetts Department of Labor Standards Lead Enforcement Program will regularly visit the school to ensure that all safety standards are being followed, and an Environmental Hygienist will conduct testing on a daily basis to make certain that the school is safe for occupancy. We will request quotes for completing the work both during on and off school hours. Upon completion of the work, a final test will be conducted to ensure the renovated classrooms are ready for students.

I know that many of you will have questions and I urge you to attend tonight's previously scheduled Public Information Session where our OPM will speak in more detail about the process. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Matthew D'Andrea, LP.D.

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