



## **WOODBIDGE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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**Joseph Massimino, Ed.D.**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

April 6, 2022

Dear Colonia High School Parents and Guardians,

I am writing to follow up on my correspondence from last week. On Monday, Mayor McCormac and I had a teleconference with representatives from the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). The Mayor and I requested that those agencies take an active role in the testing of the school grounds to determine if there are any environmental concerns. We also shared our desire to have these agencies examine and substantiate the information provided on Facebook and subsequently reported by several media outlets.

In light of the time it will likely take for these agencies to coordinate their efforts, the Township of Woodbridge, in cooperation with the Woodbridge Township School District, has taken the initiative to be proactive and will utilize T&M Associates and their team of environmentalists to begin collecting data at Colonia High School. Our initial plan, scheduled to begin this weekend Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> and continuing through Spring Break and subsequent weekends, is as follows:

- T&M Associates have already begun conducting historic site research and will request any and all necessary records, on an ongoing basis, to assist in their research.
- T&M Associates will place radon canisters throughout the building to collect indoor air samples. The canisters are the size of a hockey puck and do not pose any danger as they do not emit any substance and are routinely used in residential homes, businesses, and schools to collect radon measurements. The canisters must be undisturbed and will remain in place for 14 days at which time they will be collected and sent to the lab for analysis. They will likely be placed in conspicuous areas, such as on teachers' desks, filing cabinets, or hanging from the drop ceilings.
- In conjunction with collecting indoor air samples, the environmental company will utilize handheld devices to acquire real time radiation measurements throughout the interior and exterior of the building. They will also be conducting a more intensive walkover survey that will encompass all 28 acres that constitute the property of Colonia High School. All of this work will occur on the weekends as they will need unobstructed access to areas within the building as well as parking lots and athletic fields.

It is imperative that the school community understand that none of the testing and data collection being done is a health or safety concern for our stakeholders. This plan has been

shared with the agencies mentioned above so that everyone is aware of the scope, nature, and timing of the work being done. All testing results will also be shared with those agencies for independent review so that we have a comprehensive understanding of what steps, if any, should be taken based on the findings. We remain steadfast in our commitment to any and all protocols to protect the health and safety of the Colonia High School community.

Mr. Pace, Principal of Colonia High School, has already met with the faculty as well as the PTO to provide an overview of what is shared within this letter. We will remain transparent and consistent in our communications and will continue to keep the community informed of any new information. Thank you in advance for your understanding and patience.

Sincerely,

Joseph Massimino, Ed.D.