

Memorandum

To: Dave Spooner, Facilities Manager
From: Jason Barsness, Safety Coordinator
Date: April 30, 2019
Re: Radon Testing Results – District Wide

Minnesota statutes require public schools to have health and safety programs that comply with health, safety, and environmental regulations including indoor air quality. The Minnesota Department of Health recommends radon testing in schools as a best practice when addressing indoor air quality management

On March 4, 2019 the Institute for Environmental Assessment, Inc. was contracted to begin radon testing district wide. Small devices used to check radon levels were placed in each occupied room in contact with the ground, in each occupied room above unoccupied areas, and in 10% of occupied rooms on upper levels. There were 991 test kits placed throughout the district at the beginning of the school week and collected three days later for analysis.*

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have established a recommended action level in frequently occupied areas of 4.0 picoCuries per liter (pCi/L) for an annual average. The initial short term results indicated four rooms above the action level. MDH states that a single test result should not be the basis for determining if action needs to be taken to reduce radon levels. They recommend follow-up testing in areas where initial testing results are at or above the action level to determine if elevated levels are present during occupied times (radon can fluctuate with the operation of ventilation). If radon levels are below the action level during occupied times, no further testing is necessary.

A Continuous Radon Monitor (CRM) which provides hourly radon readings was placed in each of the rooms above the action level. CRM testing showed radon levels during occupied times below the 4.0 pCi/L action level in each of the four rooms.

Location	Initial Results	CRM Results
Congdon Park Classroom #110	5.0 pCi/L	.86 pCi/L
Congdon Park Classroom #124	4.0 pCi/L	1.57 pCi/L
Homecroft Small Office #119	4.4 pCi/L	.53 pCi/L
Lincoln Park Calming Room # 1532	4.4 pCi/L	1.74 pCi/L

After notification of the results to the ISD 709 Board of Education the test results will be sent to the Minnesota Department of Health as required by Minnesota Statute 123B.571.

The complete testing reports are attached for review.

*All procedures and analysis for samples collected and analyzed for radon were performed in accordance with the Minnesota Department of Health's "Guidance for Radon Testing in Minnesota Schools" dated 9/20/18 and the ANSI/AARST "Protocol for Conducting Measurements of Radon and Radon Decay Products in Schools and Large Buildings" (ANSI/AARST MALB).