

December 11, 2023

To: Dr. Josh Swanson, Superintendent
From: Jason Mutzenberger, Executive Director of Business Services
Re: Radon Testing Results

Radon is a colorless, odorless, radioactive gas that occurs naturally in soil, rocks, underground water supplies, and in the ambient air. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other scientific organizations, naturally occurring radon gas has been associated with an increased risk of developing lung cancer.

Radon gas typically moves up through the ground into the air in buildings through subsurface walls and/or floor cracks, floor drains, and construction joints and pipes. The water supply may also be a source of radon exposure.

All frequently occupied rooms with ground contact or rooms immediately above unoccupied spaces that are in contact with the ground, such as crawl spaces, and tunnels are tested at each building within the district.

Per Minnesota Statute, section 123B.571, school districts are required to report radon test results at a school board meeting and report results to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and conduct follow-up testing in rooms that have radon greater than 4 picocuries per liter.

The district had not yet reported the last round of Radon testing to the school board but has reported the results to the MDH. Radon testing occurred between 11/30/2021 – 12/3/2021 for all 10 district buildings. A total of 1155 radon kits were analyzed.

School	# of Kits	# of Rooms above 4 pCi/L
ASC & Early Childhood	89	
Cedar Ridge Elementary	118	
Central Middle School	202	
Eden Lake Elementary	113	1 (Room 100E)
Eden Prairie High School	252	
Education Center	75	
Forest Hills Elementary	82	
Oak Point/Eagle Heights	119	
Prairie View Elementary	95	
Transportation	20	

A continuous radon monitor (CRM) was used for follow-up sampling in Room 100E at Eden Lake Elementary between February 18-21, 2022. A CRM is recommended to determine if elevated levels are present during occupied times. Radon levels can fluctuate with the operation of the ventilation system as well as with changes in barometric pressure. The CRM provides hourly radon readings so that levels can be evaluated for periods while the room is occupied. The average radon levels over the workday in Room 100E was 1.04 pCi/L on the first day of testing, and 1.19 pCi/L on the second day of testing. These levels were below 4 pCi/L and did not require any further mitigation efforts.

The last round of Radon testing was submitted to the board in August 2017, and the next round will occur during the 2026-27 school year.