

~ Washington Township Schools ~

- SUPERINTENDENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE -

**Summary of Meeting held on Wednesday Evening, January 16, 2019
7:00pm @ OFRS Library**

SUMMARY - Meeting #6

- **Review/Finalization of DRAFT Meeting Summary (12.10.18)** - *There were no suggested changes to the summary DRAFT (the summary will be posted to the Superintendent's Environmental Task Force "Quick Link" located on the left side of the District homepage).*
- **Environmental Contaminants Matrix & Environmental Site Assessment** - *Mr. Bruce Wolf, Industrial Hygienist - Garden State Environmental, was welcomed back to the Task Force and answered questions members had on the topic of environmental contaminants. Questions centered mainly on radon in light of the recent testing conducted district-wide by WT Schools. Mr. Wolf prescribed testing every five years, being aware of pathways (cracks, gaps in building infrastructures) and sealing such with foam sealant, and monitoring speed of indoor air flow. The one room in the district that measured 4.0 picocuries per liter of air (4.0 is the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) action level) will be retested and the room, a small group instructional space, has since been closed.*

A question was also raised about air flow requirements which Mr. Wolf shared are building code requirements that are satisfied and assessed as part of the construction process. Mr. Wolf commented that the schools' current carbon dioxide (CO₂) detection systems are "good" to have in buildings. One question was raised about legionella in general which Mr. Wolf said would be a concern in buildings where vaporizers, showers, and fountains (not water fountains), were prevalent. For schools, he recommend maintaining the water temperature in the HVAC systems at a minimum of 120 degrees. Mr. Wolf does not have any concerns regarding legionella and the schools.

Mr. Wolf concluded for the Task Force's purposes that continued monitoring of asbestos, indoor air quality, carbon dioxide, and radon is prudent for schools. He then proceeded to present an overview of a proposal for a comprehensive environmental site assessment for the Task Force's consideration. The assessment would entail on-site visits to all schools by a Licensed Site Remediation Specialist, the identification of any AOCs (Areas Of Concern), an environmental records search in conjunction with the NJ DEP, and the drafting of a comprehensive report for

the District. He added that such assessments are conducted during the warmer seasons when the ground is neither frozen nor snow covered.

- **Facility Infrastructure/Recommendations and Review** - *Mr. Greg Somjen, Parette Somjen Architects, was welcomed back to the Task Force. He outlined a proposal for an air-conditioning/dehumidification system for the Old Farmers Road School including the mechanical details, the costs involved, time frames for a possible school bond referendum, the positive impact of such on humidity and temperature control, and the need for electrical upgrades to accommodate new systems. There was a concern about whether or not air conditioning/dehumidifying classrooms and common areas would have positive effects on the school's hallways to which Mr. Somjen responded that he has only seen positive hallway results in all the projects he has designed for New Jersey schools.*
- **Subsequent Meeting Date and Discussion of Next Steps** - *The next meeting has been scheduled for Monday, February 11, 2019, 7:00 pm, OFRS Library. The Task Force will formulate its recommendations to the Board and outline a plan for presenting such at the Board's February 19th meeting.*