

Roosevelt Union Free School District

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES 240 Denton Place Roosevelt, NY 11575 Tel: (516) 345-7001 Fax: (516) 379-0178 www.rooseveltufsd.com

Board of Education

Bishop J. Raymond Mackey, Chairperson
Robert Summerville
Frank Scott
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Heather Palmore

Robert-Wayne Harris
Superintendent of Schools

October 2, 2009

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We are writing to provide you with information about our High School Roof Replacement Project. As you may be aware, we are currently undergoing the first phase of the High School Renovation Project which is the replacement of the entire roof. Our current roof has many leaks causing numerous challenges to our facilities after a heavy rain or snow. As a result, we had no other choice but to make the replacement of the roof a high priority. You should know that our original plan was to complete the roof replacement during the summer, but due to unforeseen challenges we were unable to begin the roof replacement until late August. Kindly know that we made every effort to minimize any impact on our students and staff and the academic learning environment.

The first phase of the roof replacement project was to remove any materials containing asbestos. We assure you that all regulations in regards to asbestos removal were followed. Furthermore, prior to beginning any work, the roof was thoroughly tested and evaluated to determine the exact location of any and all asbestos. During the asbestos removal process, we exceeded all safety regulations of the NYS Education Department and the NYS Department of Labor to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff. In addition to the above, our Board of Education requested that air quality testing be conducted within the building to ensure there was no evidence of asbestos. This testing was completed and the preliminary results have indicated that the interior air in the High School is asbestos free. More importantly, it should be noted that 100% of all removal activities occurred and were completed when students were not present in the building.

Please know that the Roosevelt UFSD firmly believes in promoting a safe and secure learning environment. We would never intentionally engage in any activity that would negatively impact the health and safety of our students and staff. Both the Board of Education and District Administration are well aware of your concerns regarding our High School Roof Replacement Project. As a result, we have taken every precaution necessary to ensure that our students and staff are safe by following every guideline and recommendation for the safe and expeditious removal of any materials containing asbestos. In addition to the above, in order to ensure a completely safe and asbestos free environment, the District employed AKRF Environmental Consultants to monitor the entire removal process. Once again, all removal activities occurred and were completed when students were not present.

We will continue to be vigilant in monitoring all activities throughout the remainder of the roof replacement project to further ensure the health and safety of our students and staff. We are looking forward to completing our High School Roof Replacement Project which will provide a solid, modern and asbestos free roof for our students and staff. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the High School Construction Project and/or the replacement of the High School Roof, feel free to contact Mr. David Weiser, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations, (516) 345-7021.

Sincerely,

Robert-Wayne Harris
Superintendent of Schools

CC: Board of Education

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