November 6, 2019

Dear Parents of Northeast High School:

The School District of Philadelphia works daily to ensure that our students and staff have a safe, healthy environment in which to learn and work. On behalf of the School District, I am writing to share information with you about a report of damaged floor tiles in Room 21-A. This room is used as an office for a faculty member of Northeast. A review of our records confirm that these damaged tiles contain asbestos.

Immediately, following receipt of the notification, the Facility Area Coordinator visited the school to assess the conditions and evaluate the extent of the damage. As a result of the FAC’s visit, Room 21-A was immediately closed. On October 14, 2019, a licensed, third party environmental inspector completed an assessment of the damage and developed a scope of work to abate and remove the floor tiles. The inspector also surveyed other areas of the building on 10/16/19 to document damage to asbestos containing materials. The inspection results identified six additional areas with damaged floor tiles, and pipe fittings that contain asbestos.

Based on the damage identified, the School District does not believe there is an immediate or imminent harm to students and staff in the building; however, we have begun working with Principal Crowder to develop a schedule to repair or remove the damaged materials. This plan will be shared with the Philadelphia Federation of Teacher’s Environmental Director. Given the large enrollment at Northeast and the amount of activities and programs in the building, the District will schedule abatement activities during long holiday weekends, Thanksgiving and Winter Recess when students are not in the building.

Work will start over this Veteran’s Day weekend to repair damaged floor tiles in the hallways and Room 21-A.

Hard copies of the inspection report are available in the AHERA binder in the Main Office and will also be posted on the NEHS and School District website (www.philasd.org).

The safety of students and staff remain our highest priority. We appreciate your understanding, patience, and flexibility. You may contact the Office of Environmental Management and Services at 215-400-4730 with your questions, feedback or other concerns.

Sincerely,
Danielle Floyd
Chief Operating Officer