

## FALCON HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Bird's Word

A ROSEVILLE AREA SCHOOL

## Special Announcement

## Dear Falcon Families,

In response to some recent concerns surrounding construction and asbestos abatement projects, I wanted to share some important updates and information with all of you.

The extensive remodeling of Falcon Heights, which includes new HVAC systems, lighting, flooring, and cabinetry, will occur over the next two summers. Due to the availability of labor and cost, we are completing our asbestos abatement work during breaks during the school year in order to take advantage of the summer time to complete the construction work.

We had a chance to connect with Roseville Area Schools' Buildings & Grounds leaders as well as the asbestos abatement consultant who works with the school district. Asbestos abatement is HIGHLY regulated by the Minnesota Department of Health. Since 1993, the district has been working with Jim Lindahl, an asbestos abatement expert, from the Institute of Environment Assessment to manage any abatement projects within Roseville Area Schools.

According to Lindahl, schools have a higher standard for asbestos safety than other buildings. When abating, workers set up fans with HEPA filters. They inspect the space when the work is done, clean up, recirculate air to agitate any fibers left, then take air samples to make sure it passes. Once an abated space passes the test, workers tear down their work space and move furniture back in. At that point, based on the rigorous cleaning processes and the testing procedures, the chance of there being asbestos dust is 0%.

If classroom and building spaces have dust, it's not asbestos dust but rather normal construction dust. We understand that our staff should not be returning to spaces requiring extensive cleaning of dust, even if it's safe. To combat residual construction dust, construction crews are going to ramp up their procedures to remove dust prior to moving furniture back in. District custodial staff will also help clean up.

We appreciate your concerns and are comfortable with the additional processes that will be put in place. We also appreciate that the district continues to work with an expert in the field of asbestos abatement who oversees the abatement process in Falcon Heights and will continue to test to ensure the air quality of our school spaces.

Sincerely,

Beth Behnke Principal



Contact one of our cultural liaisons. Spanish: Si necesita ayuda con los formularios escolares, o tiene alguna pregunta sobre la educación de su hijo(a) por favor

Do you need help with school paperwork or communicating with school staff?

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Karen: နမ္ှာ်လိဉ်တစ်မာစားဘဉ်ဃးဇီးလံဉ်မ်းလဲစြာ,မ့တမ့ာ်တစ်းကတိၤသကိုးတာ်ဇီးကိုပုံးဘဉ်မှုဘဉ်ဖါဝံသးစူးဆဲးကျာဘဉ်

Kowthar Ismail (Aŋpétu Téča, PCS, RAHS, RAMS,) 651-322-0468 kowthar.ismail@isd623.org Bhutanese: यदि तपाईंलाई स्विद्यालयको फारमहरूका लागि मद्दत चाहिन्छ, वा तपाईंको बच्चाको शिक्षाको बारेमा कुनै प्रश्नहरू छन् भने,

Somali: Hadii aad u bahantahay in laga caawiyo buxinta waraqaha iskuulka iyo xiriirka mamulka fadlan lasoo xiriix

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