

LSAT March Committee Meeting

Date: March 7, 2023

Scheduled Time: 3:30 pm (in-person)

Meeting Start Time: 3:36pm

Facilitator: Kassekert (Chair)

Member Attendance: Craig, Crumlin, Venzant, Tolosi, Lipscomb

Staff Attendance: Little, Q. Jackson, Daniel, Doty, Villatoro, Dr. Williams, Umoja, Green, Darien-Overton, Vickerie, Mullins, R. Jackson, M. Jackson, Oliver, Ramirez, Gardner

Other Attendance: Toussaint Webster (DCPS Facilities), Damian Popkin, Dwain Carr, Dan Nebhut (DGS) Urs Gautam (DGS)

Summary

Asbestos was found on the lower floor (basement) at Roosevelt STAY GP Campus. Entry and exit points in the basement will be sealed off from floor to ceiling and a decontamination zone will also be present for workers when they leave the space. Workers will not be exposed to the public. RSTAY LSAT made it known that the communication related to the school's renovation has been substandard. RSTAY LSAT requested an updated scope of work in writing, air quality test reports, and historical data of asbestos being found within our building.

Points of Discussion

I. Asbestos Building Concerns

a. DCPS Facilities/DGS Response

- i. Because of the age of our building, it was highly likely that we would have asbestos. Asbestos is mostly found in the glue that holds the windows together and pipes.
 1. Note: According to Webster, new windows for our building are expected to be installed in Spring 2024/Summer 2025.
- ii. Asbestos was found on the lower floor (basement, specifically in/around the linear pipes in the ceiling).
- iii. According to DGS, asbestos is deemed safe when it is not disturbed or moved. However, due to construction, the asbestos in the basement needed to be disrupted. The team is sealing off the area as they work.
- iv. According to Webster, asbestos is "most likely" throughout the building. He is "unsure" of where this is located but it will stay as it does not need to be disrupted or moved during the renovation process.
- v. DCPS Facilities were notified of asbestos within the appropriate 30-day notice and were working internally to address it.

1. Note: RSTAY did not know of asbestos until Friday, March 3, 2023.
- vi. Entry and exit points in the basement will be sealed off from floor to ceiling along with the utilization of water to prevent asbestos from becoming airborne. Decontamination zone will also be present for workers upon leaving the space.
- vii. Workers will not be exposed to the public. They will not be walking around the school.
- viii. The abatement period is unknown, but it is estimated to be four weeks and will begin at the end of the month.
- ix. DOEE (Department of Energy and Environmental) talked with DCPS about the building's safety.
- x. Webster stated that it is possible to compare the historical records of asbestos in the building.
- xi. According to DGS, removal of the asbestos will follow DOEE requirements and regulations.
- xii. Air quality tests (CO2 and Particulate Matter) are administered throughout the building. 10 air quality tests are in this school. It is unclear where they are placed in our building.
 1. Central air was recommended throughout the building according to a previous air quality report. This is not currently within the scope.
 2. Air quality is checked multiple times a day, every day.
- xiii. Boiler has one setting, which leaves the staff to run the AC (that also do not consistently). Webster suggested that we submit a work order.
- xiv. Webster suggested a work order be submitted for women's restroom by the gym.

b. Staff Resonse and Questions

- i. Why not abate all asbestos now? There is no clear answer as to why a proactive approach is not being taken.
- ii. If students and staff have health issues/concerns, they should contact LMER (Labor Management) with medical documentation.
- iii. Apprentice Program for students with DCPS Facilities and DGS
 1. Create a partnership with general contractors in the city
 2. Utilize CTE programs as a transition
 3. Reach out to Clifton Martin (current CTE Advisor)
- iv. Based on the school's needs, is there money in the budget to address those needs for future construction?
 1. The Mayor's office approves child development centers (vendors seek spaces with at least four classrooms, an enclosed play space, and ADA accessibility).
 2. The elevator is the only additional funding to be included in future construction. FY 24 is the expected time for mayor approval for the budget.
- v. Are RSTAY CTE programs remaining at Roosevelt High School? There is no plan to keep CTE programs at Roosevelt High School.

- vi. Is there a certain date for funding request to be approved? November 7th or 11th 2023 and March 2023 for SY 2024
- vii. Is asbestos in tile different from what can be found in pipes and plaster? Yes.
- viii. Is the asbestos being tested in the tiles in the basement? The abatement is only for the linear pipes in the ceiling. This is happening because the walls are changing in the basement. There was no answer related to whether asbestos in the flooring will be tested or addressed.
- ix. Is there an air quality monitor that can be provided to determine if there is a breach of asbestos? Webster stated he would ask if this is a possibility.
- x. Is there a concern that someone who has respiratory issues should be aware of? Webster stated that thresholds numbers regarding air quality can be given to staff members.
- xi. LSAT stated that communication regarding the project is not acceptable and requested more SIT meetings and a townhall meeting.
- xii. Have parents received notification? Utilize the letter from DCPS Facilities. Little stated Central Office will also support notifying families.
- xiii. Webster stated that he would check the flooring in the basement to review its current state and to determine potential asbestos exposure.

c. RSTAY Requests

- i. Scope of work
- ii. Air quality reports
- iii. Historical data of asbestos (Contact: Ralph Knatt, Environmental Protection Specialist (Asbestos) Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE).
 - 1. *Desk: 202-535-2998*
 - 2. *Cell: 202-309-5122*
 - 3. ralph.knatt@dc.gov

II. Meeting Adjourned: 4:37pm