

March 2, 2010

Dear Parents,

I haven't been in contact with you since last Wednesday's letter, and we all know so much has happened since then. The purpose of this letter is to bring you up to date with the roof repairs, make-up days, and other important information you may need to know. Please, if you have any questions do not hesitate to email or call me.

The actual roof repair project began last Wednesday, February 24th. The day before that the men on the roof were merely cleaning off the water, ice, etc... We were told that there would be 'minor' dust and disruption during this project. We were told that one, possibly two classes a day would have to be moved, just for that day, and then would be back in their classroom the next day. The dust was expected to be so minor that the roofing company simply put a couple of plastic sheets over the teacher's desk and the computers in the rooms expected to be affected. Much to our surprise, as well as to the surprise of the roofing company, much more dust and debris was produced than expected. After having class on Wednesday and Thursday of last week, it was clear that in the best interest of the students and staff, especially those who may have asthma or other breathing issues, that we should cancel classes during the times when the main demolition of the roof was to occur. The main disturbance will be completed by this Thursday. After Thursday, the roofers will be finished with the demolition part of the project. We are taking the precaution for the health and safety of all, of using Friday as a day to clean up any remaining dust and debris that may still be in the building. Bill Jones, head Maintenance, has done a wonderful job of cleaning as this project has progressed. A final cleaning on Friday will insure that the building is in excellent condition for classes to resume on Monday. We will definitely be back in school this coming Monday, March 7! To make up these missed days, we will be in session on Friday, March 12th, which was a scheduled teacher work day. We will also come back from Easter break early and be in school on April 6,7th. The final three make-up days will be Monday-Wednesday, May 24-26th. On the school calendar it incorrectly states that Memorial Day is Monday, May 24th. Memorial Day is the following Monday, May 31. Hopefully this make-up schedule will be satisfactory for everyone.

A final note: A concerned parent contacted Springfield about possible asbestos in the school. I want to make sure that everyone knows my biggest concern is and always will be for the well being of all of our students. If the parent would have contacted the office, they would have found out that a very thorough and well kept Asbestos Management Plan is in the school office for anyone to see at any time, and has been since 1988. Regular checks, documentation, and inspections are done and logged in that Asbestos Management Plan to make sure that any asbestos in the school remains contained and safe. Although I certainly understand and respect the legitimate concern of the parent, I would have welcomed the opportunity to answer any questions regarding the asbestos situation before the parent made the call to Springfield. An asbestos expert from Springfield did come to OLQP and, as we expected, found no asbestos in or near the ceiling; therefore, giving us the go ahead to proceed with school on Monday as planned. Thank you to everyone for your patience, flexibility, and support during

this chaotic situation. Again, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to call or email me at any time!