



Haverhill Public Schools

Facilities

TO: Steve Bucuzzo, Purchasing Director, City of Haverhill
DATE: 15 January 2019
FROM: Heather R. Forgione, Supervisor of Facilities
RE: Whittier Middle School – ServPro Cleaning

Mr. Bucuzzo,

Throughout the Fall of 2018, the Facilities Department worked with several outside contractors to try to locate the source of several roof leaks at Whittier Middle School. During this period, concerns regarding the potential presence of mold were brought to our attention. We were unable to address these concerns until we could locate and eliminate the source of the water intrusion into the building.

In December 2018, a company was finally able to isolate and repair several areas of the roof above the hallway leading from the office to the gymnasium, as well as an area over the gymnasium itself. We worked with this roofing contractor to facilitate the repairs, and with a mold remediation company to discuss options for cleaning affected areas once repairs were deemed effective.

By early January 2019, the Facilities Department and the principal at Whittier were confident that the December repairs had addressed the majority of these problems. By this point, however, the roofing issues and resultant mold concerns had become widely publicized. We had received estimates from the remediation company for their proposed work. By the week of 6 January 2019, public outcry warranted swift action, and this particular company had the capacity to be on site with a crew to perform the proposed cleaning over the weekend of 12 and 13 January 2019.

In discussions with the superintendent and business manager on Thursday 10 January, we all agreed that expediency was key to answering parent and staff concerns about the safety of the school for their students with regard to the presence of mold. It was vital to be able to complete this work quickly, before the mild levels of mold spores could increase. The remediation company was able to complete their work that weekend, which eliminated any potential impact to student activities and classroom schedules. With their approval, I contacted ServPro and arranged for them to be on site the following day to complete their cleaning tasks that weekend.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.