

PCB Work at NCUHS & NCCC

Chris Young • a month ago • Monday, Jul 22 at 7:26 PM • **North Country Union High School**

July 22, 2024

Dear Falcon Families:

I hope you have all been able to enjoy some wonderful Vermont weather this summer. For those who have been by the school over the past few weeks, you will have noticed a significant project underway. This letter is to update you on that work, which is part of the most recent PCB testing, mitigation, and abatement work at NCCC and NCUHS. Letters sent home on [May 2, 2023](#), [September 13, 2023](#), and [March 29, 2024](#) provide more information on the steps and the levels regarding PCB's since our initial testing in January, 2023.

The most recent work is the result of PCB levels that exceed the state's maximum allowable level of 300 nanograms per cubic meter. The [Jan/Feb PCB Results - NCCC & NCUHS](#) identified four rooms in the NCCC that were above this threshold. Subsequent testing this past spring in the NCUHS B-Wing showed higher levels than previous tests as well. The work to address these areas includes the following:

- Removing caulking from around the windows in B-Wing & C-Wing
- Encapsulating the exterior of the windows in B-Wing & C-Wing with epoxy paint
- Cleaning the Univents and replace air filters throughout B-Wing & C-Wing
- Encapsulating walls in B-Wing & C-Wing with epoxy paint
- Conducting air samples in B-Wing & C-Wing once the work is completed.

As you can imagine, this work is quite disruptive to our facility. While we had planned on the work in C-Wing to occur over the summer, the work in B-Wing was more of a surprise and we have worked closely with our consultants and the state agencies to mobilize a workforce in hopes of being able to open school on time this fall. Our summer staff and maintenance crews have done amazing work to move offices, rearrange classrooms, move furniture, find new places for summer programs, and in general making the best of a very difficult situation.

That said, we will need all of the work and the testing to go well in order to plan for an on-time re-opening in the fall. As an administrative team, we are committed to making this happen, and are working with our local representatives, the Department of Health, Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Agency of Education to help them all understand the importance of opening school in-person in a safe environment. In the meantime, we are exploring options if we have to delay or interrupt school re-opening in the fall. We continue to get updates regularly, and as soon as we have concrete information or plans to share, we will do so.

We understand that the PCB testing, remediation and mitigation work is complicated and tedious. We appreciate your support and patience as we strive to minimize the disruption to learning while also ensuring that our staff and students are safe.

Please visit the [Department of Environmental Conservation PCB Website](#) for more information about PCB's in schools. You can expect more information and updates as the project continues, and in the meantime, please let any one of us know with any questions.

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