



Navajo Elementary School
7501 E. Oak Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85257

Telephone: 480-484-3600
navajo.susd.org

October 4, 2018

Dear Navajo Elementary School Community:

I would like to share with you this latest update on what has been happening with the Navajo campus since we were last together, all in one place.

Cause of the fire

Scottsdale Fire and Police Department investigators responded the morning of the fire and again the following day. To date, they have not informed the Scottsdale Unified School District or me that a cause for the fire has been determined.

Moving Forward

Efforts to restore the school continue. Once the full scope and cost of any restoration is determined, the District will decide how to proceed.

This decision will be made by the SUSD Governing Board. At this point, it looks like the Board may discuss various options at its regular monthly meeting on October 16, but the agenda has not been finalized. I encourage you to look for that agenda at www.susd.org/board, where you'll also find Board meeting minutes and a link to watch Board meetings live, online, or afterwards.

Damage to Navajo

During the fire, building materials containing asbestos and lead paint burned and, consequently, smoke and ash containing asbestos and lead entered the main school building (A, B and C wings). Testing of fire-related particles found on various surfaces in the main building has confirmed the presence of asbestos and lead in the main building, preventing its occupancy. The main building is closed until cleaning and environmental remediation of the building can be completed.

Recovering Contents

Every attempt will be made to recover contents that are "restorable." Restorable means that after an intensive, thorough cleaning and testing process, items are safe for use again. Unfortunately, there will be items that will not be able to be restored and that will not be able to be returned to their owner.

Good News

Certain paperwork, such as teacher lesson plans, nurse's files and student files, will be scanned on flash drives and returned to their owner. This process has not yet started, so no timeline has been defined; however, we will work with staff to provide direction to the

contractor so they know what is a priority in each room. The plan on how this will be accomplished is being formulated right now, so there will be more to come on this.

Cleaning & Testing

The determination of what can and cannot be recovered, as well as the cleaning and testing process, is being completed by Dominion Environmental, a leading environmental consulting company.

Restorable contents will be thoroughly cleaned, using all applicable industry standards for asbestos and lead remediation, and procedures and controls outlined in OSHA Standard 1926.1101 (“Asbestos Standard for the Construction Industry”) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule (RRP).

As an additional layer of protection, after the cleaning process is complete, environmental sampling will be performed by a third-party consultant who is EPA-certified to sample for asbestos and lead. The cleaning procedures will follow the EPA’s “Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)” Subpart E – Asbestos Containing Materials in Schools, the EPA’s RRP and HUD’s Lead-Safe Housing Rule. All samples will be submitted to accredited, third-party laboratories for analysis. The laboratory analytical data will be compared to the federal clearance standards for asbestos and lead to ensure that the items have been properly restored and are safe to be used again. No restorable items will be returned for use until laboratory testing confirms that they are clean and safe.

As Navajo’s principal, please know that I am committed to sharing updates with you about our school as new information becomes available.

I continue to be amazed by the outstanding support you are providing to our school as we work through the many challenges we have faced in the fire’s aftermath. You have been there with us every step of the way, and we are most grateful.

We Are Navajo.

Matt Patzlaff

mpatzlaff@susd.org

Principal

Navajo Elementary School