

To: ANC6B, SMD6B07, Commissioner Vince Mareino
From: The Department of General Services (DGS)
Date: August 29, 2023
Subject: Watkins Elementary School: Environmental Safety Testing Result Notification

Commissioner Wilson:

The Department of General Services (DGS) takes our commitment to maintaining the health and safety of our residents seriously. One of our responsibilities is executing the Public Facilities Environmental Safety Amendment Act of 2020, which requires DGS to conduct proactive, routine testing of public buildings across 17 environmental parameters. We write to you today about test results and related remediation at a building in your Single Member District located at 420 12th Street SE.

During routine testing at Watkins Elementary School, we found two environmental risks, as defined by the legislation:

- Elevated levels of carbon dioxide and particulate matter in the boiler room. The remediation of the issue is expected to be complete September 13, 2023. The work order number is 754229.
- Water intrusion on the ceiling tiles in the cafeteria and in the common room, which can result in the development of mold and mildew. The remediation is expected to be complete on September 15, 2023. The work order number is 754233.

You can find more information about these environmental tests by visiting our new database of inspection details here: <https://dcdgs.my.site.com/BEA/s/>.

What are the next steps? In accordance with the Public Facilities Environmental Safety Amendment Act of 2020, details and test results will be available on the DGS website. DGS will also hold a public meeting on September 6, 2023 at 6:30pm to share details. You can join the meeting by using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/DGSEnvironmentalTesting4>. Feel free to share the link with community members as needed.

We appreciate your time and understanding of the work that we are doing to maintain the health and safety of those who work and go to school at Watkins Elementary School. If you have questions, please contact Mike McLaughlin, DGS External Affairs at environmental.dgs@dc.gov.