

Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor Damon T. Arnold, M.D., M.P.H., Director

525-535 West Jefferson Street • Springfield, Illinois 62761-0001 • www.idph.state.il.us

Case No. 201040801

January 8, 2008

Jenna Link Warren County Health Department 400 North Main Street Monmouth, Illinois 61462

Dear Ms. Link:

On January 4, 2008, we performed an inspection at the Monmouth-Roseville Junior High School at 200 East Gossett in Roseville, Illinois. During this inspection, we visually assessed the gymnasium's south wall for visible mold and each room where a concerned parent's child attends class. Specifically, we searched for evidence of roof leaks, pipe condensation, and other types of water damage, sources of chemicals that might cause adverse health effects, and noticeable odors. The School Principal was present during the inspection.

The following observations were made and appropriate corrections are recommended:

- A discoloration is present on the gymnasium's south wall as reported by a
 concerned parent. The discoloration is light blue in color and spans the entire
 length of the south wall. This does not appear to be mold. The wall was
 previously painted light blue and some of the old paint is visible beneath the
 superficial layer.
- Visibly moldy and water-stained ceiling tiles were present in the Health and Art classrooms. The School Principal explained that these tiles were affected by a past roof leak that has been repaired. These ceiling tiles should be removed and replaced.
- 3. The relative humidity ranged from 15 to 20 percent. This range is less than the IDPH guidelines for acceptable indoor air quality. IDPH recommends that indoor temperatures in the winter be maintained between 68 and 75 degrees, with a relative humidity level between 30 to 60 percent.
- 4. A sooty substance is present on the ceiling and spans the length of the south wall in a mathematics classroom. This substance does not appear to be mold and may have resulted from continuous use of an exhaust fan in the classroom. The School Principal explained that the area is cleaned periodically. While this does not appear to be a health hazard, possible remedies could include sealing the gap between the ceiling and the wall or discontinuing the use of the exhaust fan.

For more information about good work practices for cleaning small areas of visible mold, please refer to the enclosed IDPH fact sheet, *Common Questions and Answers about Indoor Mold.* A copy of the publication, *Illinois Department of Public Health Guidelines for Indoor Air Quality*, is also enclosed for your convenience.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (217) 785-5886.

Sincerely,

Aaron Martin, LEHP

Division of Environmental Health

cc: IDPH Peoria Regional Office