



HILLSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
*"Ready, Set, Excel"*

*Antoine L. Gayles, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools*

June 21, 2017

Good afternoon Parents and Guardians,

At approximately 6:00pm on Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup> WOK experienced a terrible roof collapse in the auditorium, due to the significant rain fall we experienced throughout the afternoon. The collapsed roof damaged the stage and water began to settle into the basement area of the building. Several school supply items that were damaged by the water have been considered contaminated and marked for disposal. In addition, we have not been able to occupy the building as a result of the damage and students have been using space at Hillside High School to close out the academic year.

Clean up began almost immediately. The following is an update on our progress since the incident occurred

On June 19<sup>th</sup> AllRisk Property Damage responded to WOK at approximately 11pm, completed an initial cleanup, clear-bagged affected contents, and set dehumidification equipment. Due to the extent of roof damage, tarping of the roof was not possible.

On Tuesday, they began containing the auditorium doors and started select demolition of the wet carpeting. Drying of the hardwood flooring will be addressed.

Today, Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>:

- a) an environmental company will test impacted materials as necessary, and perform air tests in the auditorium and in the adjoining areas.
- b) An electrical company will inspect and restore power as possible.
- c) AllRisk will be removing wet drywall in the lower level and continue with drying efforts.

- d) The AllRisk Construction Supervisor, and an engineer from Environetics will conduct an inspection of the roof and will provide a report to outline of the process for roof repair.

Once the insurance company releases the scene, we can begin with the removal of the debris to allow for roof repair.

When the building is considered safe to enter, we will work with the WOK administration to have staff and students collect their belongings and prepare their rooms for the summer recess. We should have additional information tomorrow, Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, regarding gaining access to the building.

Although this was an unfortunate accident, we are thankful that no one was injured and are appreciative of your cooperation under this circumstance. The WOK administration, staff and students deserve a great deal of our appreciation for working together towards a productive day of school. I also want to thank the entire Hillside High School community and Mrs. Sidwa for accommodating nearly 500 students with very short notice. You were exceptional hosts.

Thank you all for your patience. I will provide additional information as it becomes available.

Best wishes for a happy, safe summer



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