

DEWEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

#1 BULLDOGGER ROAD DEWEY, OK 74029

(918) 534-2241 • FAX (918) 534-0149

www.deweyk12.org

VINCE VINCENT

SUPERINTENDENT

vwvincent@deweyk12.org



Update Regarding Student Health Issues

11/17/2017

Let me take a moment to provide an update on information regarding the process we're following in response to some of our students' health issues. In my last update, I noted that the Oklahoma Dept. of Environmental Quality (OKDEQ) was providing assistance to us by assigning an environmental specialist to our case. In addition to that assistance, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) assigned a team from the Dallas, TX office (Region 6) as well. The scope of the EPA's work began with field screening of air quality in several buildings on our campus. The scope of OKDEQ's environmental specialist's work is one of oversight and assistance with water testing. To this date, some portions of the work have been completed with the following notification provided to us from the EPA.

"At the request of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality and your request as Superintendent of Dewey Public Schools, the Environmental Protection Agency Region 6 (EPA) conducted field screening of air quality at the Dewey Public Schools on Tuesday, November 7, 2017. All levels found were below EPA screening levels of concern for hazardous chemicals. EPA will remain on-site to support the state and Dewey Public School officials until no longer needed by these officials."

Sincerely,

Madison Baxter

USEPA Federal On-Scene Coordinator

In regards to water sampling, lead and mercury were tested and the results from the OKDEQ have come back negative as well. Although these results are good news and there appears to be no environmental concerns, the representatives from the EPA and OKDEQ offered to take further steps to ensure safety. So, Dewey Schools opted to continue more in-depth testing for the purposes of being thorough. As of today, the EPA has completed their testing and the OKDEQ is currently finishing up their complete water analysis. As I have been told, we can expect to have the final results available to us the week of November 27th. As we receive those, we'll provide updates. Dewey Schools would like to thank the EPA and the OKDEQ for their efforts and assistance and we also thank the parents and community for their continued support through this process.

Thank you.

Vince Vincent

Superintendent