

Look Ahead View for October 14th, 2019

Things are still busy both inside the new Clyde Brown Elementary School and outside of the school.

Beginning with the exterior work, the old Clyde Brown School demolition has been completed and the Cultec Stormwater Management Solution has been installed under what will be the new parking lot. Commonly used in new building construction, this system provides filtration, conveyance and infiltration of water on the site. We will then install conduit for lighting and then grading for the new access to the building. We hope to have a first coat of asphalt on the parking lot and road before the end of the year. We will give you plenty of advance notice of any changes to the student drop-off or parking.

Inside the new school, we continue to work on our Punch List. This list has been developed collaboratively by Tappe Architects, Agostini Construction, the ESBC members and members of the school Administration and staff. The list has been pared down significantly and completed items are inspected by the architects to determine if the issue has been corrected. Progress continues and we take advantage of days like last Friday (when students are not in school) to work inside the building.

The issue of Radon in the school has been a topic of conversation. Although testing for radon is not required, it is encouraged by both the USEPA and the Massachusetts Department of Health's Radon Assessment Unit. It is not uncommon to find radon in this area of Massachusetts. Many homes have some level of radon and it exists in our water and foods that we commonly eat. In 2016, a Hazardous Materials Report was conducted at the old Clyde Brown School and radon levels were monitored in 6 areas of the school. The samples collected were all lower than the recommended EPA Guideline of 4pC.\liter of air. No further action was required.

But having found radon in limited samples in the new school, the ESBC, School Administration, School Committee and the Select Board felt it prudent to do additional testing to see if the radon levels were consistent and if remediation will be required. There is no question that safety of the students is our highest concern. Testing will be done in 56 locations in the building over a three-day period this week (October 14-16). Those results will be analyzed, and a recommendation will be made about next steps (whether remediation is required). This process is following the guidelines established by the USEPA and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Since it may take a week or two before the analysis of the data is completed and a recommendation is formulated, we will increase the pressure of the air circulating in the building. That increase in pressure will provide a short-term solution to mitigate radon levels that may be present. Results and subsequent proposed actions will be detailed on this page and on the Town website.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to post comments or questions on this page and we will do our best to answer them.

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Main Entrance



Old CFB Site



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The Elementary School Building Committee