**School PCB Test Results**

DATE

Dear Parents, Caregivers, and our Staff:

We are writing to provide you with an update on the recent testing for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in our school.

PCBs are a group of human-made chemicals commonly used in building materials and electrical equipment before 1980. PCBs can be released into indoor air from building materials that contain PCBs. PCBs can cause serious health problems. The potential for health effects from PCBs, as with other chemicals, depends on how much, how often, and how long someone is exposed to them.

Indoor air testing for PCBs took place at SCHOOL during SCHEDULED WEEK. An environmental consultant collected samples of indoor air that were processed by a laboratory, and then reviewed by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), and the Vermont Department of Health.

# What was found?

**No tested room or space has PCB levels at or above the lowest Vermont School Action Level for your school:**

* 30 ng/m3 (nanograms per cubic meter) for pre-kindergarten
* 60 ng/m3 for kindergarten through 6th grade
* 100 ng/m3 for 7th grade through adult

Test results are listed below.

# Why are the levels different for each age group?

Foodis the main non-school source of exposure to PCBs for most people. Younger children are exposed to more PCBs per their body weight from the food they eat. The school action levels take into account the total exposure to PCBs for students and staff from the food they eat. That is why the school action level is lower for younger children and higher for older children and adults.

# Test Results

Approximately one third of all rooms and spaces, such as stairways and hallways, in the school were tested. Rooms and spaces not listed were not tested. “Not detected” means that the laboratory did not detect any PCBs.

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| --- | --- |
| **Room or Space** | **Result (ng/m3)** |
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# What happens next?

Our goal and the goal of our state partners is to ensure a safe learning environment for students and staff. Since the PCB levels are below the school action level, we don’t need to do anything further. Our school will continue to use best management practices to reduce PCB exposures in indoor air, as well as manage PCBs in building materials during any renovations.

However, if the use of a classroom changes, then these results need to be evaluated against the new use. For example, if a room is currently used for 7th grade and then needs to be used for 6th grade, then the results need to be evaluated against the school action level for the K-6 age group.

# Questions?

* Find **more information about PCBs**, including the complete test results, at[dec.vermont.gov/pcb-schools](https://dec.vermont.gov/pcb-schools).
* For **testing and test results questions**, email [SOV.PCBSampling@vermont.gov](mailto:SOV.PCBSampling@vermont.gov).
* For **health-related questions**, call 1-800-439-8550.

Sincerely,

SCHOOL CONTACT