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Dr. Betty J. Sternberg Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Hamilton Avenue School Parents:

At the Hamilton Avenue Parent Forum held on Wednesday, March 26, 2008 a number of issues and concerns were raised regarding the modulars and transportation. We have attached a chart which tracks the issues raised, the follow-up measures taken and the current status.

A Frequently Asked Questions document on transportation was sent home last Friday and has been posted to the District web site. Parents are encouraged to call the Hamilton Avenue School office when transportation issues arise (625-7413). Office staff track all issues/complaints on a centralized reporting system. The District Transportation office then works with the bus company to follow up on the items entered on this report.

We are open to your feedback and will continue to work proactively with Dr. Rau and Dr. Cline to keep parents informed as more information becomes available. Dr. Rau will provide ongoing communication with all Hamilton Avenue School families via the Friday Folders.

Thank you all for your patience as we continue to address the challenges involved with the relocation plan for Hamilton Avenue School.

Sincerely,

Dr. Betty J. Sternberg Superintendent of Schools

Attachment

Hamilton Ave. Issues Update 3/28/08

Issue		Follow-Up	Status
1.	Environmental test standards	There have been a total of 15 tests (see 3/25/08 update). Results of all testing conducted by Environmental Assessments & Solutions, Inc. (Charles Schwartz) have been reviewed by Michael Long, Town Health Dept., and Bob Brown, Hygenix, the independent environmental consultant engaged by the BOE Advisory Cmtee. -Test for asbestos - no regulated asbestos identified -Tests for mold - There are no mold standards for bacteria and fungi in air or on surfaces. Professional evaluation of results are required. -Test for Formaldehyde – measurements are 1/10 th the State of CT guideline, reference page 8 of environmental summary report – CT standard is 0.1 ppm for Formaldehyde in air. - In addition the modulars underwent standard routine testing for Radon – results were found to be within acceptable levels per State standards of 4 pCi/L (picoCuries per liter). The full report is available through the Hamilton Ave. office (625-7413)	Information complete; summary report distributed at 3/26/07 HAS Parent meeting; summary report and supporting data posted on GPS web site (3/26/07).
2.	Charles Schwartz credentials	Secure resume & post on website	Information complete; received and posted to GPS web site 3/27/08
3.	Traffic at Hamilton Ave. with Charles and Pemberwick at Monica	Tom Bobkowski followed up with Sgt. Tim Berry, Greenwich Police Dept. GPD is assigning a car (if available) to monitor this and other busses through their routes and enforce whatever violations if any are observed. If parents or other citizens see cars passing stopped school busses they should report this to the Hamilton Ave. School office (625-7413). Per the standard procedures and laws this information is reported to the bus company which then reports the violation to the Police Dept. The bus drivers are required and expected to report any violations such as this to their supervisors.	Open item pending police monitoring.
4.	Accountability since liability/exposure ended with the warranty Need to improve District	Liability/exposure for the modular facility does not necessarily end with the warranty. This is something the BOE Advisory Cmtee. may pursue with the Town Attorney once the investigation is complete. Administrators have discussed this issue with staff members and	Information complete; See
٦.	Transportation office	identified specific strategies that can and should be used to improve in	Transportation Q&A attached

Hamilton Ave. Issues Update 3/28/08

Issue		Follow-Up	Status
	courtesy/customer service	this area. Parents and others are invited and encouraged to contact Richard Calcavecchio, Susan Wallerstein and/or Betty Sternberg if problems persist.	and posted to GPD web site 3/26/08.
6.	Communication – need to get up-to-date information to parents as quickly as possible, including use of multiple strategies (web, Friday folder, through PTA leaders, etc.).	Deputy Superintendent, Kathy Greider, has asked for all information to be forwarded to her attention and she will work with Principal Damaris Rau and others to streamline and improve communication channels.	
7.	Direction of the GL bus at Weaver & Chapel in the AM & PM	Transportation office has confirmed that Glenville #2 is the only bus that approaches the stop from a different direction. Transportation office and STA to work with Tom Bobkowski and STA (bus company) to assess the feasibility of changing the route.	Assessing feasibility; adds 5 min's. to route and impacts times at 3 stops in the AM and 5 in the PM. Any proposed change to be reviewed in advance with the principal and PTA leaders to ensure adequate time for parent notification
8.	Parkway PM bus driver performance	Driver has been reassigned to a different route effective 3/27/08	Complete
9.	Traffic calming devices (portable flashing light) @ HA	Tom Bobkowski will follow up with the Greenwich Police Department to see what resources they have to assist with traffic calming.	Open item
	Glenville bus cut through parking lot	Memo to STA supervisor and District manager re: this and other issues; follow up meeting with STA site supervisor; penalties assessed as appropriate per contract.	Request parents call and report this issue if they see bus cutting through dry cleaners
11.	Accountability of driver for last Thursday's incident involving Kindergarten students dropped off without parent.	While evidence is conflicting, policy of not leaving K & 1 students at stop without parent has been reviewed and will be enforced. STA and driver are on notice in writing that performance is being closely monitored.	Item will continue to be closely monitored.
12.	Request for additional monitors	Administration following up with STA to confirm feasibility of having volunteers (as available) ride the busses; parents may contact the Human Resources office if they are interested in applying for possible	Open item

Hamilton Ave. Issues Update 3/28/08

Issue	Follow-Up	Status
	assignments as part-time monitors.	
13. Request to add a stop at Ham. Ave. and Stone St. (possibly using St. Roch's lot)	Tom Bobkowski does not recommend locating bus stops at intersections with traffic lights; construction site nearby.	Closed item
14. Pemberwick & Monica – driver didn't allow time for Pre K student to be buckled	Memo to STA supervisor and District manager re: this and other issues; follow up meeting with STA site supervisor; penalties assessed as appropriate per contract.	Request parents continue to report concerns.
15. Students allowed to stand on bus	Memo to STA supervisor and District manager re: this and other issues; follow up meeting with STA site supervisor; penalties assessed as appropriate per contract.	Request parents continue to report concerns.
16. Signs on busses – inconsistent, incorrect	Memo to STA supervisor and District manager re: this and other issues; follow up meeting with STA site supervisor; penalties assessed as appropriate per contract. New signs produced and delivered to STA.	Open item; request parents continue to report concerns.

Other:

- 1. Transportation Incident Reporting System data for period 3/3 to date available upon request.
- 2. 3/27 HA parent reported that PreK-NS bus was flagged down by parent at Kinkos on Post Rd. to pick up student whose stop is Pemberwick & Monica. Bus company notified; driver reprimanded and told only to pick up/drop off children at assigned stops.