

# GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## NEWS

Sunday, March 2, 2008

### **HAMILTON AVENUE SCHOOL FACILITY AND RELOCATION PLAN UPDATE**

*Hamilton Avenue School will be closed for one week:  
Monday, March 3, 2008 through Friday, March 7, 2008.*

#### **Hamilton Avenue School Modular Facility:**

\* Recap: In the course of investigating and remediating a roof leak at HAS on Friday, February 29, 2008, the District's environmental consultant identified additional areas of concern. Upon further investigation the consultants discovered mold within the walls and soffits of a portion of the building, necessitating the closure of Hamilton Avenue School.

\* Ongoing testing, which has required drilling into the building, has confirmed the existence of mold inside the external soffits in additional locations throughout the building.

\* The results for indoor air quality tests taken on Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup> from a limited number of rooms throughout the building will be available late afternoon on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

\* Additional and more extensive testing results will be available on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Childcare for Week of March 3-7, 2008:**

\* The District is working with the Greenwich Boys and Girls Club to provide childcare for approximately 75 Hamilton Avenue School children during the school day next week. Details are still being worked out, however, childcare will be available beginning on Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> through Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Hamilton Avenue School Staff:**

\* Hamilton Avenue School Staff will report to work at the Western Middle School Cafeteria, entering via the cafeteria entrance, at the regular start time. Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Betty J. Sternberg and HAS Principal, Dr. Damaris Rau, will update the staff and instruct them on plans for the rest of the day/week.

#### **Connecticut Mastery Tests (CMT):**

\* The District window for administering the State's CMTs is the month of March.

\* The CMTs for Hamilton Avenue School students ONLY will be postponed.

\* District Administrators will work with State officials on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> to determine the specific course of action.

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**School Year – ‘180’ Days Requirement:**

\* State Statute requires that students are in school for 180 days.

\* District administrators will work with State officials on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> to develop a plan for addressing the State requirements.

**Hamilton Avenue School Relocation Plan:**

\* District and School Administrators – in consultation with members of the Board of Education and school PTA – are developing a plan to relocate Hamilton Avenue School students and staff for the remainder of the school year.

\* The Relocation Plan is still in development and will be reviewed at the Board of Education meeting on Monday night.

\* The Relocation Plan will address new sites for HAS students and staff, transportation, furniture, materials, resources, delivery of instruction for special subjects, schedules, after school programs, etc.

**Board of Education Emergency Meeting:**

\* ***The Board of Education will hold an Emergency Meeting on Monday, March 3, 2008 at 7:00 PM at the Greenwich High School Auditorium.*** The Board will discuss and communicate the status of the facility and a relocation plan for Hamilton Avenue School students and staff for the remainder of the school year. There will be an opportunity for public comment and questions.

The Superintendent continues to work in consultation with District and school administrators, Board of Education members, the First Selectman, Chairman of the BET, Town Department of Health officials, environmental consultants, and members of the PTA as we continue to investigate the extent of the facility issues at HAS and a plan for relocation.

Updates will be posted to a dedicated page on the District site daily and/or as they become available. Go to [www.greenwichschools.org](http://www.greenwichschools.org) and follow the link on the home page.

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