

GREENWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NEWS

HAMILTON AVENUE SCHOOL TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY RECEIVED

(For immediate release: Greenwich, CT – Friday, January 30, 2009) The Hamilton Avenue School Building Committee has received a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO) with conditions for the new school building. A separate TCO with conditions has been issued for the parking structure.

The following factors must be considered and/or analyzed prior to initiating the move of students and staff into the building at this point in the year:

- conditions outlined in the TCO
- the Board of Education, the Town Attorney and District Administration must review factors including, but not limited to, the status of the ‘punch’ list, warranties, and training.

The District has determined, in consultation with Hamilton Avenue School administration, that the move to the new building is expected to take place over the Spring Recess (April 6-10), with Grades K-5 students moving into the building after the break. This schedule ensures adequate time for:

- implementing health and safety procedures,
- setting up offices and instructional spaces,
- orienting students and staff to the new building, and
- making certain that building maintenance, food services, telephone, technology, equipment and systems are fully operational.

Additionally, this schedule avoids disruption to the preparation for and administration of the March CMT testing schedule.

The District is currently assessing the feasibility of moving the four Hamilton Avenue Preschool classes into the new building over the Winter Recess (February 9-16). This may be possible because of the limited number of students, high staff to student ratio, and a limited section of building

needed for the program. However, in addition to the items listed previously, this limited move still requires a review of:

- administrator coverage in the building,
- health Services,
- replicating the full instructional program (specials, coverage for teachers during lunch, etc.),
- food services, and
- custodial coverage

Dr. Betty J. Sternberg, Superintendent of Schools, said, “While we are pleased to have received the TCO, we need to be sure that items required for the safety and security of our students and staff, ranging from custodians operating the building systems to teachers implementing the evacuation plan, are in place.”

The District will review the factors outlined above and will make a determination on moving the Hamilton Avenue Preschool into the new building by end of day Monday, February 2, 2009.

Dr. Sternberg also announced that Glenville School students and staff will remain in their current locations through the end of this school year.

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