



WESTBROOK SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

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Dear WMS Families,

During routine maintenance earlier this month, surface mold was detected in the Westbrook Performing Arts Center in the main theater, two dressing rooms, an office, and an adjacent hallway. It was likely caused by a combination of high humidity this summer and a failure of the air mechanical system that is dedicated to the PAC. Visual inspections were conducted by trained environmental hygienists, including air quality evaluations in the impacted areas. Due to the sheer size and complexity of the facility, the PAC will be closed for the next three to four months while remediation work is completed.

As a precaution, inspections were conducted throughout the middle school as well to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Some surface mold was detected in some spaces. Those spaces have been cleaned and sampling results indicate there is no airborne contamination. Ongoing inspections and sampling, and heightened cleaning, will be conducted as necessary. We are fortunate that the significant issue is isolated to the Performing Arts Center which will be the focus of mitigation. This will not impact the start of school next week.

We will keep you updated as the project progresses. Please reach out to Principal Laurie Wood or me with any questions or concerns.

Take care and be strong.

Peter Lancia, Ph. D.
Superintendent of Schools