



PALMYRA BOARD OF EDUCATION
PALMYRA, NJ 08065

Brian J. McBride
Superintendent of Schools

Administrative Office
301 Delaware Avenue
856-786-9300
FAX: 856-829-9638

William R. Blatchley
*Business Administrator/
Board Secretary*

May 1, 2019

Dear Palmyra Community,

As you may know, there have been recent reports of concerns in area school districts where rubberized gymnasium floors may contain mercury.

The Charles Street School gymnasium floor is rubberized and was installed in 1992. Upon learning of this concern the district took the proactive step to have the floor tested. Bulk sampling testing was conducted over the spring break by TTI Environmental Inc. I received the test results indicating the presence of mercury in the rubberized floor. In an abundance of caution, the gymnasium was immediately closed to students and staff. We are moving forward in securing in-depth air sampling testing to determine the level of concentration of mercury vapors in the gym area. We have also reached out to specialists to guide us through this process.

The district's Safety and Security Team meets on a monthly basis, and will be monitoring results and providing information to the community as it becomes available. A link will be created on the district's website to provide the community with information about testing, results, and progress moving forward.

My first priority is the safety and well-being of our students and staff. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I remain accessible to you.

Sincerely,

Brian J. McBride
Superintendent