

*Petal Robertson*

President  
Montclair Education Association  
Post Office Box 1332  
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January 16, 2021

**TO:** Dr. Jonathan Ponds, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Latifah Jannah, Board of Education President  
Ms. Priscilla Church, Board of Education Member  
Dr. Alfred Davis, Jr., Board of Education Member  
Ms. Jessica de Koninck, Esq., Board of Education Member  
Mr. Sergio Gonzalez, Board of Education Member  
Ms. Eve Robinson, Board of Education Member  
Ms. Allison Silverstein, Board of Education Member

**RE:** NJEA Notes from Walkthroughs on January 13, 2021

Greetings,

Below, please find notes from Ed Lasser, NJEA Health and Safety Consultant, regarding the Montclair Public School District building walkthroughs conducted on January 13, 2021 at Buzz Aldrin, Northeast, and Bradford Schools.

- Generally the Mechanical HVAC is not sufficient to protect members on its own
- Dampers are not working in many rooms reducing fresh air flow
- We are looking for 6 air changes per hour actual or equivalent (purge time will give you 2 on a 4 hour day)
- Not all windows can be open (air conditioners)
- The filtering is inadequate throughout the locations visited (Bradford, Buzz, Northeast)
- The building management systems are not allowing for fresh air overrides
- The water damaged areas should be checked for occult mold
- (Behind the wall or ceiling). There are wall humidity measuring devices.

Sincerely,

Petal Robertson  
President  
Montclair Education Association

cc: MEA Executive Board  
Mr. Ed Lasser, NJEA Health & Safety Consultant  
Mr. Ryan Edwish, NJEA UniServ Field Representative

- It has been decided that the OT Room will not be used. No ventilation and there is a vent into the classroom next door. This room is marked "off limits".
- The HVAC system was not operational while we were there. Could not check to ensure there was ventilation/exhaust in any of the student bathrooms.
- Could not check all rooms, as they were being used for OT, PT, and speech privately with students

Glenfield

- 4 lines to the HVAC system that run throughout the building, 2 of those lines were not on and/or working. Custodian tried an "override" switch and it did not work. Custodian called "downtown", but was still not able to get the system on or working.
- Numerous shared office spaces, bathrooms, workspaces, and classrooms presented with no mechanical ventilation due to the system being off.
- OT workspace has no ventilation and should be marked "off limits". Window that does not open and no vents
- Room 115 has broken ceiling tile in bathroom
- Room 127 had airflow in, but no return working. Custodian explained it is on two lines and only one of the lines was on.
- Recommendations for hoods to be on over stoves in room 113, over kiln in room 103, and over kilns in room 105 as added precautions
- Several areas (especially in the library) with water stained tiles and painted tiles to camouflage the water damage
- Room 212 – Univent not working, motor on top of unit
- Boys bathroom by auditorium – water damaged tiles
- Band room office – window doesn't open, water damaged wood, window held in with tape
- Shared office space for dance teachers' room 208 – no window, one vent not on, no air purifier
- Room 333 – ceiling univent not operational, but room does have windows that open
- Room 332 – ceiling univent not operational, but room does have windows that open
- Room 330 – Giant hole under sink, not useable, water damage

Sincerely,



Catherine Kondreck  
Vice President  
Montclair Education Association

cc: MEA Executive Board  
Mr. Ryan Edwish, NJEA UniServ Field Representative

*Petal Robertson*

President  
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January 16, 2020

**TO:** The Following Montclair Public Schools Executives:

Dr. Jonathan Ponds, Superintendent  
Ms. Latifah Jannah, Board of Education President  
Ms. Priscilla Church, Board of Education Member  
Dr. Alfred Davis, Jr., Board of Education Member  
Ms. Jessica de Koninck, Esq., Board of Education Member  
Mr. Sergio Gonzalez, Board of Education Member  
Ms. Eve Robinson, Board of Education Member  
Ms. Allison Silverstein, Board of Education Member

**RE:** January 13, 2021 Walkthroughs

Greetings,

Below are the notes I recorded on January 13, 2021 during the building walkthroughs of Buzz Aldrin Middle School, Northeast, and Bradford.

**Buzz Aldrin**

- Nurse's office has inadequate isolation room
- Emidio protested the showing of the univents and dampers (this took several minutes)
- Old, dirty filters found in univents
- Red no mechanical ventilation just air purification system. Emidio was asked the resolution for cold weather and stated that teachers and students would have to wear jackets
- Inadequate filters, looking for at least MERV 8 and work their way up (Ms. Ghandi indicated that she was told the district put the best filters they could)
- Two units no filters at all
- Asbestos suspected in floors and piping

**Northeast/Bradford**

- No adequate placement for staff lunch/bathroom
- Inadequate isolation rooms

- Same issues as prior buildings
- Open work orders

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Robertson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Petal Robertson  
President  
Montclair Education Association

cc: MEA Executive Board  
Mr. Ryan Edwish, NJEA UniServ Field Representative