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**Springfield
Public Schools**

Maintenance Center

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To: Parents and Staff of Centennial Elementary School

Date: February 14, 2019

From: Chris Reiersgaard

Re: Radon testing

An important step is being taken to ensure that the buildings of Centennial Elementary School are healthy and safe.

This is to notify you that initial testing for elevated radon at Centennial Elementary School will be conducted starting February 15-18. Under a 2015 Oregon law (ORS 332.166-167), Oregon schools must be initially tested for elevated radon on or before Jan. 1, 2021.

The radioactive gas, radon, is the number-one cause of lung cancer among non-smokers, according to EPA estimates. Elevated radon is found naturally in soil across the country and under all types of structures (including homes).

To test for elevated radon at Centennial Elementary School, small devices will be placed in each of the occupied rooms that are in contact with the ground starting February 15th. These devices will be picked up on February 18th. Test results will be available online or at the Maintenance Department as soon as they are released to us.

The test devices look like a cardboard envelope packet that is hanging on the wall. Devices may be placed in somewhat hidden locations, where possible. Please do not tamper with or move test kits, and keep exterior windows and doors closed (except for normal entry/exit) during the testing period.

While occupants may be exposed to elevated levels of radon in schools, current data from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) suggests radon exposure at home is the number-one source of radon exposure for most people. The EPA and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) recommend that all homes, regardless of location and type, be tested.

Please see OHA's Frequently Asked Questions about radon, including information on the health effects, at www.healthoregon.org/radon. Information on how homes can be tested easily and inexpensively is also found at this website. You can request printed information on radon by contacting OHA's Radon Awareness Program at 971-673-0440 or radon.program@state.or.us.

If you have further questions or concerns regarding radon testing at Centennial Elementary, please feel free to contact Chris Reiersgaard at 541-744-6375.

Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation.

Chris Reiersgaard