

# *MAC Services, LLC*

*Environmental Specialist*

October 30, 2020

Town of Somerset School Department  
580 Whetstone Hill Road  
Somerset, MA 02726  
Attention: Carlos Campos / Dr. Pauline Camera

**Re: Follow up mold inspection at the Middle School located at 1141 Brayton Avenue in Somerset, MA.**

As requested, on October 22 through 28, MAC Services, LLC completed a follow up inspection to determine if any mold contamination remained at the Middle school several weeks after the completion of mold remediation activity. The inspection included a visual inspection of all rooms throughout the building, measuring of Relative Humidity and air sampling of representative areas including some specified rooms. The results of Fungal air samples are determined by utilizing a comparative analysis with current conditions outdoors at the time of indoor sampling using Industry Standard guidelines for determining if acceptable levels of mold spore activity exist. In addition to the outdoor sample, a total of Thirty-two air samples were collected throughout all areas of the building on October 22, 2020.

Fungal bio-aerosol monitoring is the sampling of spores from the air onto a media slide. Utilizing a microscope, the spores are then identified at least to genus and counted. Comparisons with outside levels and types indicate whether pathogenic species have been or have become predominate and at what concentration in a particular area. The mold counts for the outdoor (control sample) collected on October 22, 2020 (the day all air sampling was completed) were particularly high for Basidiospores and Cladosporium which was reflected in some of the samples taken indoors, particularly where there were some doors and windows open.

All mold samples were analyzed by H2O EnviroComp, which is enrolled in the EMPAT (Environmental Microbiology Proficiency Analytical Testing) program and is located in West Dennis, MA. This evaluation reflects the levels of fungal contaminants on the day of sampling. Airborne levels of fungal spores will vary naturally and conditions may change in the future which could promote the growth of mold or create other air quality concerns in the interior environment.

Results of the air sampling indicate mold spore activity is within acceptable levels. The visual inspection was completed in every room after the air sampling was completed and resulted in finding several isolated areas of visible mold. Examples include on a chair, in several cabinets, mostly in the corners and on the underside of Four metal desks. All of these areas were cleaned up on October 29, 2020. The RH was consistently found to be

above 60% throughout the building at the time of air sampling. The RH in the general atmosphere historically lessens during the months of November through February.

I want to emphasis one more time the recommendations going forward to maintain the building from developing mold growth in the future:

- 1) The Relative Humidity (RH) must be maintained to be less than 60%. If there is a sustained period of time with high humidity, mold will return. It won't be overnight or even dramatic in a short period of time but will creep back.
- 2) **The Relative Humidity (RH) must be maintained to be less than 60%.**
- 3) **Establish RH gauges strategically throughout the building to monitor the RH.**
- 4) Surfaces must be cleaned for dust on a regular basis. Dust can be an easy food source for mold in a sustained high RH environment.
- 5) Maintenance staff must be notified if any isolated areas are observed so that they can clean immediately. They have been given an EPA registered fungicide to effectively kill the mold.
- 6) Keep doors in between rooms open as much as possible to assist in promoting general air circulation throughout the building.
- 7) Remove cabinet doors on all possible cabinets and minimize clutter. This will help the air circulation / humidity controls access these small pockets of space where mold existed in significant amounts previously.
- 8) Flood events such as roof leaks or pipe leaks must be responded to and dried out within 48 hours.
- 9) Maintain all fans

Please call me at (508)789-0983 with any questions or further clarifications of this report you may need.

Regards,



Joseph Cooney  
MAC Services, LLC