

October 30, 2024

### **Ongoing Air Quality Monitoring Confirms Safety Standards at Elkins Middle School**

Randolph County Schools remains fully committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of students, staff, and families at Elkins Middle School. Since Thursday, October 24, 2024, the district has supported six separate inspections of the facility, including a comprehensive air quality assessment conducted over the weekend. Green Home Solutions provided a broader spectrum of air quality analysis on Saturday, October 26, 2024. Each inspection has confirmed that no carbon monoxide (CO) or other hazardous levels are present, and all air quality readings are within normal, safe ranges.

As an added measure, the Elkins City Fire Department conducted an independent inspection of the building on October 28, verifying that no CO was detected and that the conditions within the school meet established safety standards.

“I have full confidence in the expertise of the Fire Marshal, the Elkins City Fire Department, the West Virginia Department of Education’s HVAC Technician and Indoor Environmental Specialist, and other health and safety professionals involved,” stated Shawn Dilly. “These individuals have dedicated their careers to safeguarding the public, and they are collaborating closely with us to ensure that Elkins Middle School provides a safe environment for all.”

On October 29, 2024, at the request of Elkins Fire Chief Stephen Himes and in coordination with Mike Miller, Director of Office of Emergency Management/the 911 Center, the West Virginia Army National Guard’s 35th Civil Support Team conducted a comprehensive evaluation of Elkins Middle School. The team performed a series of advanced tests, including assessments of carbon monoxide (CO) levels, off-gassing from roofing materials, and other critical air quality measures (Report attached).

Randolph County Schools has worked in close cooperation with the WV Fire Marshal, Elkins Fire Department, Mountaineer Gas Company, the Office of Emergency Management/911 Center, West Virginia Department of Education, Green Home Solutions, local and state Health Departments, and has reached out to Homeland Security, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the WV Center for Threat Preparedness for further support. RCS extends our gratitude to each of these agencies and the Army National Guard’s 35th Civil Support Team for their commitment to ensuring the continued safety of our facility.

As an additional precaution, RCS requested that the Elkins Water Distribution Department (WDD) conduct a water quality assessment within the building. On October 29, 2024, the WDD collected and evaluated water samples, with results (attached) confirming that the water is within normal safety limits. The Health Department has reviewed and verified these findings.

Randolph County Schools will continue to monitor air quality at Elkins Middle School and will take all necessary actions to maintain the highest safety standards. We will inform our community of updates as we work alongside local health and safety experts.

For more information, please contact Randolph County Schools at 304-636-9150.