

KAWARTHA PINE RIDGE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD Tuesday, February 4, 2020

Dear Prince of Wales PS Families,

You likely have heard about local concerns regarding results of soil testing at Prince of Wales PS. The KPR Board wishes to assure you that we are aware of these concerns, and, for us, the health and safety of our students and staff is our highest priority.

As our expertise is in education and not health, we rely on the experts at Peterborough Public Health for guidance on all matters related to the well-being of our students and staff. We have been following up concerns expressed regarding beryllium in soil samples, with Medical Officer of Health Dr. Rosana Salvaterra and her staff.

They have assured us they have no scientific evidence that Prince of Wales PS or any of our surrounding schools are unsafe for students or staff.

Dr. Salvaterra has stated that the testing results for beryllium in our soil are within the range considered to be safe. However, we share her concern that the actual amount of beryllium appears to be rising, even if it remains within acceptable levels.

Dr. Salvaterra also has assured us she and her staff are working closely with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, provincial officials, and independent environmental consultants to ensure these concerns are addressed.

As always, we will continue to take guidance and direction from Peterborough Public Health to ensure our students and staff remain safe.

We will keep everyone informed of any possible developments in this area. In the meantime, should you wish more information on beryllium, please visit the Peterborough Public Health website at www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/uranium.

Sincerely,

Joe Tompkins
Superintendent, Student Achievement

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