

**From:** [Stamford Public Schools](#)  
**To:** [Rosenson, Valerie](#)  
**Subject:** Letter from Superintendent Kim  
**Date:** Friday, January 04, 2019 5:35:54 PM

---

## Letter from Superintendent Kim

### Mold Update

January 4, 2019

To SPS Staff and Families:

Happy New Year and welcome back!

While many of us were enjoying a break from the routine of school and work, others were working diligently to identify root causes and address water intrusion in our buildings. As promised prior to the break, we are providing this district update to complement communications from principals about building-specific concerns and the [Mold Task Force](#) regarding detailed assessments, discussions and work plans.

**Staffing:** We were fortunate that despite mold concerns that affected most of our facilities only 22 of our 2,000+ staff members missed work due to mold. This is a testament to the commitment of our staff to our students and their families. Of the 22 affected, only 8 remain absent. While we have good substitutes in each of these classrooms, we continue to seek experienced long-term substitutes for our more specialized (AP) courses. We will also provide supplemental AP prep for students as the exams near.

**Public Conversations:** The Mold Task Force continues to host public meetings each week at the Government Center to address specific concerns. Additionally, representatives from the Task Force have attended, or are scheduled to attend, meetings at Westhill and Stark, as requested by the school administrators.

**Path Forward:** The Board of Education and City leadership are seeking to accomplish three things in the near to mid-term. First, recognizing the need for identification, remediation and restoration of building systems (e.g., HVAC, sheathing, roofs...) across the district, the City plans to substantially increase the District's allotment of capital funds for the next two years. For details on emerging projects, see the Mold Task Force website. Second, the Board of Education is seeking to build more money into its maintenance budget to support new systems

that replace obsolescent/faulty building systems (e.g., HVAC, roofs...). Finally, the Board of Education, in conjunction with the City, is seeking to transform the current facilities management system to maintain facilities more efficiently and effectively in the future. In our view, to spend capital dollars wisely will require a joint long-range facilities planning effort on the part of the City and Schools.

While we will continue our efforts to present fiscally responsible and sustainable budgets, your input is needed more than ever. Please participate in our annual Public Hearing on the budget on February 5<sup>th</sup> to let us know what is important to our schools and to you. We will share the exact time and place with you as soon as the details are finalized.

Sincerely,

Signature



Earl T. Kim

Superintendent of Schools

[Read more](#)

This is an automatic message from Stamford Public Schools. Please do not reply to this message.

[You can unsubscribe here.](#)