

Appendix H: Fact Sheet



A Study to Evaluate Employee Health in Relation to School Building Conditions



FACT SHEET

Who is NIOSH?

NIOSH is the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, a U.S. federal public health agency that is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). NIOSH conducts research and makes recommendations to prevent worker injury and illness. More information on NIOSH can be found at the following web link: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/about.html>.

Why is NIOSH involved?

NIOSH is working with the union and school district to better understand how associations between health outcomes and damp and/or moldy conditions can be used to prioritize remediation. There are 50 elementary school buildings from your district that have been selected for this study.

How will the study be done?

NIOSH will collect health data via an on-line, internet-based questionnaire, that will be offered to all employees working in the selected schools. Environmental data for each of the schools under study will be collected by NIOSH staff/contractors and will include a visual site assessment at each school and dust sample collection at a subset of schools.

Who should fill-out the questionnaire?

NIOSH, the school district, and the union encourage all employees in the 50 schools to complete the on-line questionnaire. As with any survey, participation is extremely important to ensure meaningful results.

Will my questionnaire information be kept private?

YES. Only authorized NIOSH personnel directly involved with the study will see the individual responses to the questionnaire. We will protect your individual questionnaire results and any personal information you provide to the full extent of the law as stated in the Privacy Act of 1974 and the Freedom of Information Act.

How do I participate?

You will receive an e-mail invitation from NIOSH that will include study information, the website link, a unique identification number for confidential access to the questionnaire on the CDC website, and questionnaire instructions. The survey is simple to complete and should only take about 20 minutes.

What will happen with the results of the study?

The results of the study will be summarized in a written report and sent to the school district and union. Summary study results may also be presented at national and international conferences to further research on health and indoor environments.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Michelle Martin, Project Manager, if you have any other questions. (304-285-5734, MIJ2@cdc.gov).