



PS199

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Louise Xerri, Principal
Brendan Beseda, Asst. Principal

Date: March 2, 2017

Dear Mr. Groll, Ms. Grillo and Mr. Santella,

The PS199 community is fighting to have our voice heard regarding our ongoing concerns over PCB contamination in our school. We recognize that there has been a tremendous effort by many to give weight to our concerns and find solutions to our problem. However, we are greatly frustrated that despite these efforts, the problem of PCBs is ongoing and a resolution has not occurred.

PS 199 remains committed to achieving a permanent solution that removes PCBs from our building. The health of students, staff and other community members utilizing the building are highly dependent on ongoing remedial action. Toward that end we respectfully reiterate our urgent requests for the following:

- A letter to our community explaining in clear and understandable terms the ongoing PCB concern, what actions and testing have thus far been completed, what the results of those actions and tests were, future action plans to remediate PCBs from PS 199 and to whom our community can address any and all questions.
- A commitment to broader testing within the PS 199 building, including all classrooms and offices, conducted under controlled conditions that are repeatable and reflect usual usage of the building.
- Further effort to identify and remove the source of the PCBs at PS 199 noting that unoccupied areas of the building, such as the basement, have never been tested but may potentially be a source of PCBs. It is simply foolish to continually address the symptoms without identifying the cause of the PCBs. Once the source of the PCBs is identified, we expect that every step necessary to remove that source will also occur.

We express our thanks to all who have been involved in this lengthy process to date and have provided assistance to PS 199 in remediating the PCBs. We recognize that this effort takes considerable interagency coordination and hope that we can all continue to work cooperatively to resolve our school's persistent PCB issue.

We look forward to the continued support and partnership needed to address these ongoing concerns, as well as any others that may arise should elevated PCB levels persist.

Sincerely,

PS 199 School Leadership Team
PS 199 Parent Teacher Association

CC:

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