Feb 12, 2020

Dear La Grande School District Community,

The School District recently tested for naturally occurring radon gas in our public school buildings. The Oregon Legislature has recently mandated that all Oregon Schools test for radon in schools by January 2021. We began the process early to ensure the safety of our staff and students. We have been working with Cascade Radon for initial testing as well as the Intermountain Education Service District Director of Operations & Facilities Larry Glaze, who is a nationally certified radon measurement professional, to conduct our testing.

All buildings in the La Grande School District were recently tested for radon. There were no findings of elevated radon at Central Elementary, Greenwood Elementary, La Grande Middle School, La Grande School District Maintenance/Warehouse Buildings, La Grande School District Alternative Education Building, La Grande High School, and the modular classrooms at the old Central Elementary School location.

There were rooms in other buildings that had raised levels above 4.0 pCi/L (Environmental Protection Agency action level) and we are working on how to mitigate those areas with licensed radon mitigation contractors at this time.

These areas of concern are as follows:
- Island City Elementary School: Conference Room (Principal’s Office)
- Willow Elementary/District Office: Basement Level: Copy Room, Custodian closet, Custodian office, Director of Title, EI/ECSE, Pre School Office, Office 1, Staff Room, Workroom,
- Main floor level: Gym Foyer, E Gym, N Gym, S Gym,

Full radon test results are located on the La Grande School District website at: https://lagrandesd.org/radon-testing-plan-results

Questions regarding test results please refer to:
- Joseph Waite Maintenance, Facilities, Capital Projects Manager 541-663-3204
- George Mendoza, La Grande School District Superintendent, 541-663-3201
- Larry Glaze, Director of Operations & Facilities, IMESD, 541-975-5634

There is also information on the Oregon Health Authority website. This site has a map that shows radon levels in the state. La Grande and the Grande Ronde Valley are listed as a high-risk category region.

Oregon Health Authority:
www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HEALTHYENVIRONMENTS/HEALTHYNEIGHBORHOODS/RADONGAS/Pages/zipcode.aspx

For more information on Radon Gas and Public Health:

Sincerely,

George Mendoza
Superintendent, La Grande School District

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