



Division of Educational Research and Service The University of Montana-Missoula Missoula, MT 59812-6376 (406) 243-5344 (406) 243-2197 fax

To: Andy Lind, Superintendent, White Sulpher Springs Schools Thomas Vail, Principal, White Sulpher Springs Schools

From: John Frederikson, Ed.D,

Date: 4.8.14

Re: Safety Assessment; Items Needing Immediate Attention.

There are several safety concerns which I believe must be addressed immediately. An egress door in the high schools is purposefully barred with a 2x4 and bolts eliminating access to 25% of the exits on that side of the building. This creates a significant hazard for students and staff needing to exit the building in an emergency.



The high school boy's bathroom is barred. Leaking plumbing pipes, leaking sewage into the crawl space below the school prompted the closure. It has been locked off for several months denying the boys 50% of their bathroom space and no efforts are currently being made to repair

the piping and return the bathroom to service.



The elementary school has two floors above grade and one below. There is a staircase that connects the first and second floor. The ceiling in this staircase is approximately 20' high. The window at the top of this staircase is broken and cracked and represents a significant hazard of falling glass on any child or staff member on the stair case anytime the wind blows.



The plaster on the ceiling in this staircase is cracked and represents a significant hazard of falling on any child or staff member using the stair case. My photograph does not show the cracking clearly because of the lighting; I would encourage the reader to inspect this and the other parts of the ceiling throughout the building.



This photograph illustrates another section of the ceiling and its cracking.



Mold is present in multiple areas of the school because of the failing roof, gutters, windows, sewage and ground water seepage.

This photograph shows the seepage and mold in the elementary school lunchroom; there are other areas which contain mold.



This photograph illustrates the seepage at the foot of the stairs in the lunch room area.



In the below photograph, there is a red mark on the floor just to the right of the vending machine. This read mark represents the point at which a waste pipe has collapsed. The waste water and material are backing up from this point.



This photograph illustrates where a cinderblock has fallen out of the area above the door. This door is in the area where children and staff pick up their lunches from the cafeteria. This is in an area trafficked by both children and adults; it is immediately to the right of the entrance to the cafeteria.

