



September 22, 2017  
File No. 5171-06-01

Mr. Joshua Watkins, Environmental Coordinator  
Worcester Public Schools  
20 Irving Street  
Worcester, MA 01609, MA 02035

RE: August 2017 PCB BMP Quarterly Examinations  
Doherty Memorial High School

Dear Mr. Watkins,

At the request of the Worcester Public Schools, O'Reilly Talbot & Okun Associates, Inc. (OTO) has prepared this letter report to summarize our observations of materials in the subject school suspected of containing PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls). This work is one part of the School Department's ongoing self-assessment of its best management practices (BMPs). The assessment was conducted in accordance with our June 30, 2017 proposal, and the Worcester Public Schools' BMP program.

The assessment consisted of: 1) the visual evaluations of the condition of caulk; 2) the condition of univent units; and 3) the degree of dust present on windowsills and window frames at the school. OTO conducted these observations on Monday, August 21, 2017, in the presence of yourself and facility staff.

### **Doherty Memorial High School**

OTO observed 47 rooms in the school, including the cafeteria, kitchen, library, faculty break rooms and offices, and classrooms, with general observations of hallway areas. General observations are summarized in the enclosed Table 1, and selected representative photographs are attached.

The overall quality of BMPs at Doherty was very good. The interior over-caulking was intact and in good condition in each of the spaces observed, and the univents were free of significant dust or visible oil leakage. Several rooms, mostly in the wood shop area, exhibited accumulated dust, but this appeared to consist mostly of recently generated sawdust. School maintenance staff indicated that windowsills and adjacent surfaces would be wet-wiped prior to the start of classes in accordance with School Committee policy.

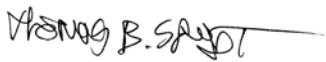
OTO observed that exterior windows along the courtyard face of rooms 316-328 in the southern wing of the building exhibited damaged or missing over-caulking. This area was brought to the attention of WPS staff. WPS staff told us on September 8, 2017 that the caulking had been repaired. Photographs of the repaired caulk are attached.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

In conclusion, our observations indicated that BMPs are being maintained to a high standard. OTO understands that WPS has requested these observations be conducted on a quarterly basis. We therefore suggest the next site visit be conducted in November 2017.

Should you have questions or require additional information, please contact the undersigned.

Very truly yours,  
O'Reilly, Talbot & Okun Associates, Inc.



Thomas B. Speight, CHMM  
Project Manager



James D. Okun, LSP  
Principal

## Attachments

Table 1 – Summary of Observations for Doherty Memorial High School  
Selected photographs from Doherty High School