



Portland Public Schools

Radon Testing Plan – September 1, 2018

In accordance with Oregon Revised Statute 332.345, Portland Public Schools has developed the following radon testing plan.

Methodology

- Portland Public Schools and its contractors will follow the scope and intent of Oregon Health Authority's [Testing for Elevated Radon in Oregon Schools](#) (link) version 1.0 – 2016 and EPA guidelines.
- Portland Public Schools has contracted with PBS Engineering and Environmental Inc. of Portland, OR for radon level testing, contract number RS- 62476. Additional radon testing resources will be utilized as needed.
- Competitive bidding is used to contract for the design and construction of radon mitigation systems.

Recent History of radon testing

- Initial short-term radon testing began during the 2015-2016 school year, resumed during the 2016-2017 school year, and concluded in the spring of 2017. Testing occurred in the recommended testing period described as “winter heating months”, typically October through March.
- Repeat short-term testing was completed for rooms that measured greater than 8 pCi/L, and as needed when testing designs of mitigation systems.
- Long-term testing was completed during the 2016-2017 winter heating months for rooms that measured between 4 pCi/L-8 pCi/L after initial short-term tests.
- Initial short-term radon testing was completed by the spring of 2017, in accordance with the statutory requirement to be completed on or before January 1, 2021.

2018-2019 Radon Testing Plan

- New initial short-term testing will be conducted in the 2018-2019 winter heating season at locations that recently came into service, did not exist during the previous testing, locations that have recently completed significant construction projects that disturbed the existing soil conditions or HVAC systems, locations that were not tested recently, locations starting a new five-year test cycle, and non-school properties.



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- **César Chávez:** Initial short-term radon re-testing will occur during the 2018-2019 winter heating season. The re-test process is due to the recent installation of a new elevator.
- **Lane:** Additional testing will occur during the 2018-2019 winter heating season, starting a new five-year test cycle, due to a test in early June 2018 that came back with higher results in room 117A.
- **Tubman:** Initial short-term radon re-testing will occur during the 2018-2019 winter heating season. The re-test process is due to the recent installation of a new HVAC system and substantial building remodeling.
- **Roosevelt, Faubion, and Franklin:** Initial short-term radon testing will occur during the 2018-2019 winter heating season. These locations are new construction sites that were unavailable during the 2016 and 2017 testing cycle.
- **Green Thumb and BESC:** Sites not yet tested before the 2021 deadline will be tested during the 2018-2019 winter heating season.
- This timing will be in compliance with the statutory requirement to be completed on or before January 1, 2021

Ongoing Radon Testing Plan

- Initial short-term radon testing will be repeated every 10 years for locations that measured less than 4 pCi/L after short or long-term testing.
- Initial short-term radon testing will be repeated every five years for locations in which a radon mitigation system is installed.

Results and Communication

- Radon testing results are available on the radon page of the PPS Healthy and Safe Schools web page, and provided to the School Board and the Oregon Health Authority. Results will include measurements and reference the level of radon at which the United States Environmental Protection Agency recommends schools take action to reduce indoor radon. [link to radon page](#)

Recordkeeping

- PPS Risk Management has begun using the radon module available in the Verdant Web Technologies, Environmental Health and Safety software. Over the 2018-2019 school year, radon test results and records of mitigation systems will be uploaded into this database module.



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Mitigation

- Throughout 2017 and 2018, 20 permanent radon mitigation systems were installed at 16 schools. Efforts will continue to achieve radon mitigation by the end of each winter heating season when determined by testing results.
- **Marysville:** Test results determined a radon mitigation system was required for rooms 137, 138, and 139. The design mitigation system was proven to be effective and will continue to run during the 2018-2019 winter heating season. For installation of the permanent radon mitigation system, asbestos abatement is needed in the crawlspace. The asbestos abatement will be planned for the summer of 2019.
- The status of completed mitigation projects, and projects underway, is described and updated on the radon page of the PPS Healthy and Safe Schools web page. [link to radon page](#)

Funding

- Passage of the May 2017 bond secured \$1.1 million for radon mitigation. As of July 2018, approximately \$335,000 has been spent for radon testing and mitigation.

Plan submission

- This plan was submitted to the Oregon Health Authority on September 4, 2018 via e-mail to radon.program@state.or.us. Any updates or revisions will be submitted to the Oregon Health Authority and posted on the PPS Healthy and Safe Schools web page.

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September 4, 2018
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