

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Pre-K RELOCATION OPTIONS TO BE PRESENTED TO PARENTS, CAREGIVERS
FOLLOWING DISCOVERY OF BLACK MOLD**

District officials find mold today in three Pre-K trailers at P.S. 1 while making HVAC repairs

Meeting called today at 3 p.m. for parents, caregivers of affected students

PATERSON – Today, Paterson State District Superintendent Eileen F. Shafer announced that district personnel working at Public School Number 1 found black mold in three of the four trailers that house the school’s Pre-K program. All students and teachers in all four trailers were evacuated to the Public School 1 building.

Assistant Superintendent Cicely Warren and Principal Joanne Barca have called a meeting for parents and caregivers to be held today at 3 p.m. at Public School 1. Three relocation options for affected students and families will be presented at that meeting:

- One for students who walk to school
- One for students who drive to school
- One for students who have older siblings who attend Public School 1.

Parents and caregivers who cannot attend today’s meeting can make an appointment with school administrators to review the options on Thursday, September 13th or Friday, September 14th by calling 973-321-0490.

Affected students will attend classes at Public School 1’s main building tomorrow and Friday. District officials are working to have all affected students relocated by Monday, September 17, with no interruptions to their education.

The district will remove and replace all four of the Pre-K’s trailers because it is more economical than repairing the trailers, Shafer said.

“The safety and wellbeing of children who attend Paterson Public Schools is always our top priority,” said Shafer. “It is unfortunate that this is becoming an increasingly common scenario in schools throughout New Jersey, but I’m glad the problem was discovered early in the school year and that we are working swiftly toward appropriate solutions.”

Public School Number 1 is a Pre-K to 5 school. A total of 48 Pre-K students, as well as their teachers, need to be relocated. Paterson Public Schools workers found the mold today as they were working on one of the trailer’s climate control system. That was followed by an inspection of the three remaining trailers, and the discovery of mold in two of them.

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