



November 8th, 2019

To: Hillside Elementary School Community

Re: Radon Testing

An important step is being taken to ensure that Eagle Point School District 9 buildings are healthy and safe. Under a 2015 Oregon law (ORS 332.166-167), all Oregon schools must be initially tested for elevated radon on or before Jan. 1, 2021.

This is to notify you that initial testing for elevated radon at Hillside Elementary School will be conducted starting November 18th, 2019.

The radioactive gas, radon, is the number-one cause of lung cancer among non-smokers, according to EPA estimates. Elevated radon is found naturally in soil across the country and under all types of structures (including homes).

To test for elevated radon at Hillside Elementary School, small devices will be placed in each of the occupied rooms that are in contact with the ground starting November 18th, 2019. These tests should be completed in a week. When results come back, they will be posted on the District Website.

The test devices may be placed in somewhat hidden locations, where possible, but some may be visible to students and staff. Please do not tamper with or move test kits, and keep exterior windows and doors closed (except for normal entry/exit) during the testing period.

While occupants may be exposed to elevated levels of radon in schools, current data from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) suggests radon exposure at home is the number-one source of radon exposure for more people. The EPA and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) recommend that **all** homes, regardless of location and type, be tested.

Please see OHA's Frequently Asked Questions about radon, including information on the health effects, at www.healthoregon.org/radon. Information on how homes can be tested easily and inexpensively is also found at this website. You can request printed information on radon by contacting OHA's Radon Awareness Program at 971-673-0440 or radon.program@state.or.us.

If you have further questions or concerns regarding radon testing at Eagle Point School District 9, please feel free to contact John Harding, Maintenance Supervisor at 541.830.6376