

November 15, 2023

Jennifer Byars, Superintendent 25 Newton Road Woodbridge Connecticut 06525

Re: 2023-2024 annual inspection of the Amity High School, Woodbridge

Dear Ms. Byars,

As part of the 2023-2024 Annual School Inspection Program conducted by the staff of this Health District, the Amity High School was included. The inspection was made using guidelines recommended by the State Department of Public Health. The purpose of the school inspection is to provide you with information for maintaining the public health environment of the school.

This year's inspection was conducted on November 11, 2023 at 7:45 am. The Tools-for-Schools Team was present, and this year included two new students. Three of the previous four students on the team will be graduating. One of the seniors on the team did an excellent job providing background to the new students. His enthusiasm has been productive in the years he's been on the team.

The school continues to be kept in excellent condition and the efforts of all involved are obvious. The concept of continuous improvement remains a fundamental philosophy.

This year we inspected rooms at random; not all were included but all portions of the building were observed in some manner.

Some general topics were discussed at the start of the meeting that apply to the whole school.

- 1. Cases of covid and cases of "stomach bug" were reported to be low,
- 2. There is a perception by students and instructors that vaping less this year,
- 3. Brief discussion happened about the desire to have paper towels installed in rest rooms so that proper handwashing can happen,
- 4. Reporting of problems in the building using "School dude" isn't always happening as it should and that leaves the maintenance team unaware of potential concerns,
- 5. Roof leaks are again a concern in several areas. Individual areas will be described below. Mr. Martoni said a new roof contractor has been hired and he anticipates better performance from them.



- 6. The school's nurses and some students indicated that there were no vape sensors in the restrooms near the nurse's office.
- 7. The water bottle fillers were discussed and there was concern about their filters. Someone indicated that periodic discoloration of the water was happening. Mr. Martoni described filter changes and indicated he would investigate the concern,
- 8. Still there are numerous rooms that had refrigerators, microwave ovens, coffee pots etc. that the school system disallows. Some of the fridges were mis-labeled with signs that indicated the fridges were to be used for science materials only, yet the fridges each had lunches, snacks, sandwiches, and drinks in them. Food and drinks in the classrooms encourage insects and rodents and use electricity needlessly and cause more work on the part of the maintenance teams.
- 9. We talked about the air handling systems in the school and about how much fresh air versus reconditioned air is present. Gaining a specific percentage isn't possible but a specific number may not be relevant; the fresh air intake volume is controlled by the relative volume of CO2 present in individual areas. Increase in CO2 levels cause the air handlers to automatically bring in more fresh air based on demand and occupancy.

Below are statements about observations in specific areas or rooms.

- 10. District offices: there was a toilet leak in the handicap stall. The odor reported last year was reported to still be present at random times. Mr. Martoni is aware of the complaint but is yet to determine a source of the odor. Temperature differences in these offices are still present,
- 11. Stage: ongoing roof leaks were reported.
- 12. "Black Box": ongoing roof leaks were reported.
- 13. Band areas: ongoing roof leaks were reported.
- 14. Nurse's areas: an odor was reported from this area that may be related to dry plumbing traps and/or an issue with the pump under a sink,
- 15. Rooms 104 and 102: potential odor sources here may be related to dry traps,
- 16. "English" restroom: one stall door had a broken latch,
- 17. Senior Lounge: the furniture here was in very poor condition and cleanliness was questionable. Replacement of the furniture with durable, readily cleanable furniture would be appropriate,
- 18. Pump pit near room 102: there were openings in the wall at the plumbing pipes that allow air transfer to the adjacent rest room. This is likely the reason for odor in that rest room,
- 19. Teacher lounge: this room was cooler than most others but there hadn't been a "school dude" report to the maintenance team so they didn't know repair was needed,
- 20. Tech office: this room was messy and in need of proper organization,
- 21. Men's lavatory near room 112: one stall latch wasn't working properly,
- 22. Room 144: there was a loose ceiling tile that needed to be properly installed or replaced,
- 23. Auto shop: several eyewash stations were in poor condition and are not regularly maintained,



- 24. Room 274: there was a refrigerator and a microwave oven present,
- 25. Room 254: there was a loose ceiling tile that needed to be properly installed or replaced,
- 26. Room 259: there was an unlabeled large jug with unknown contents. All containers need to be labeled with their contents. Inspection frequency of the fume hoods was questioned but nobody had an answer,
- 27. Room 265: there was a refrigerator, coffee pot, and a microwave oven present,
- 28. Room 260: still, there is no Chemical Hygiene officer. It wasn't clear who accepts daily responsibility for storage and safety of chemical products,
- 29. Girl's lavatory near "science": one faucet needed repair,
- 30. Room 208: there was improperly stored food present and there was contraband spray cleaner.
- 31. Room 206: decorative lamps and scented wax room odorizers were present,
- 32. Room 291: the blinds were badly damaged and in need of replacement,
- 33. Girl's lavatory, seniors: one faucet wasn't working and there was a problem with one stall
- 34. Roof: the cementitious cap stones needed re-pointing and work was needed to the aluminum trim in that area,
- 35. Girl's locker room: a sewage odor was present.

Please call if you have questions or if we can be of other assistance.

Sincerely

John M. Laudano

Registered Sanitarian

Chief, Environmental Services

Copy: Terry Lumas

Monica Kreuzer

Steve Martoni

The Maintenance Team via Steve Martoni

Student team members via Monica

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