



**Reynolds School District  
Administration Offices**  
1204 NE 201<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Fairview, OR 97024  
(503) 661-7200 • fax (503) 667-6932

Re: Radon Testing Update – Initial Testing Completed (Alder Elementary)

The health, safety, and well-being of our students and staff are top priorities at Reynolds School District. This letter is to update you on the initial radon testing performed in Alder Elementary. Under a 2015 Oregon law (ORS 332.166-167), Oregon schools must be tested for elevated radon on or before January 1, 2021.

To meet the required timeframe early, Reynolds School District began testing for elevated radon levels in November 2018; PBS Engineering and Environmental Inc. was contracted to help conduct monitoring and mitigation procedures.

Radon testing devices were placed in 56 areas of the building(s) that are frequently occupied. Of those rooms, 25 areas tested above the EPA recommended action level of 4.0 picocuries per liter (pCi/L). Reynolds School District's response to elevated radon results has been prompt and comprehensive. The rooms that tested at or above 4.0 pCi/L are subject to longer confirmation testing and temporary mitigation systems. All testing results can be found at [www.reynolds.k12.or.us/district/radon-testing](http://www.reynolds.k12.or.us/district/radon-testing).

Reynolds School District is working closely with PBS Engineering and Environmental, Inc. to execute a plan to mitigate elevated radon levels and Alder Elementary. This plan includes:

- Checking classrooms and other areas with elevated levels to ensure air flow vents are not blocked and there are no cracks in flooring.
- Checking and servicing HVAC systems to ensure they are operating properly.
- Retesting rooms with levels at 8.0 pCi/L or higher over a three-day period beginning February 11, 2019 pending any weather-related delays.
- Retesting of rooms with levels between 4.0 and 8.0 pCi/L with long-term testing beginning in February and ending in May 2019.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that you cannot see, smell or taste. It is the number-one cause of lung cancer among non-smokers, according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Elevated radon can be found across the country and in all different types of buildings, including homes and schools.

Breathing air with radon gas does not cause any immediate health effects, and not everyone exposed to elevated levels will develop lung cancer. Lung cancer usually occurs many years after exposure. Individuals who are exposed to high radon levels over long periods of time are the most at risk. Because students and staff of school buildings spend much of their time at home, the home may be their most significant source of radon exposure. The EPA recommends that **all** homes and schools be tested for radon.

Please see Alder Elementary Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about radon, and visit Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) radon website to learn more:

[www.healthoregon.org/radon](http://www.healthoregon.org/radon).

(continued)

Information on how to test your home is also found on OHA's webpage. You can contact OHA's Radon Awareness Program at 971-673-0440 or [radon.program@state.or.us](mailto:radon.program@state.or.us).

If you have any questions or concerns about radon testing at Alder Elementary, please feel free to contact Reynolds School District Facilities Maintenance at (503) 661-7200, ext. 3440.

Thank you,

Reynolds School District

