

## PEA Committee on Worksite Safety & Health Report

*“Safety First”*

Joseph J. Mazur, Jr. Chairperson,  
January 28, 2009

File # -                   **05-105, 05-107**                    **PEOSH File # C70-08-097**

Worksite :               **PS #5**

Subject:                 Water Damage

Description:           Water damage, falling plaster, possible mold; Roof Leaks causing water damage to ceiling and walls.

Results :                -Complaint filed with District 11/04/2005, No response PEOSH complaint filed 09/22/2006, PEOSH inspection 10/26/2006 without Association representation, One serious violation in three locations was found along with two other-than-serious violations building wide. **Abatement Date** – January 5, 2007, Penalty of \$500 per serious violation and \$300.00 per other-than-serious violation per day after 01/05/2007. PEOSH informal conference on 01/10/2007 with PEA representation. Roof project is with SCC.  
-Grant for \$250 million is scheduled but unfunded, District will ask for **extension** until funds are released.  
-District asked on 08/20/2007 for **another extension** to abate the problem. The new abatement date is January 15, 2008  
- PEOSH complaint referred on 01/16/2008 and combined with 07-101; 07-107, and 07-108.  
- District asked for a **third extension**.  
- PEA commented on the extension request on 02/21/2008. PEOSH responded on 03/29/2008  
- PEOSH stated the District has not provided documentation that a structural engineer determined that the building was safe for employees. PEOSH stated the District cordoned off the area and removed employees from the area. This was the reason extensions were granted in the past. ***This is NOT true.***  
-District asked for **another extension** on 08/27/2008, with no final abatement date stated.

Status :                 **Open.** At the 05/07/2008 JLMH&S meeting the district stated \$100m is available statewide from the state to repair emergency projects. PS #5 roof is on the list. A preliminary inspection was done by the State which overlooked several major problems including damaged parapets, brickwork which needs pointing, and improperly installed univent grills. (JLMS&HC 12/15/2008)

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File # :                   **06-105**

Worksite :               **PS #20**

Subject :                 Dumpster

Description :            Dumpster area is unsanitary. Water valve and hose requested to clean area for custodian.

Results :                -Complaint filed with District 12/12/06.  
-PEOSH complaint filed  
-PEOSH inspection conducted 02/22/2008 during our President’s Day vacation without PEA Representation.  
-Awaiting PEOSH report.

Status :                 **Open.**

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File # :                   **07-101**

Worksite:               **PS #5**

Subject:                 Water infiltration.

Description:            Ceilings leak during rain, falling paint and plaster in rooms 216, 218, 220, guidance and VP offices.

Results:                -Complaint filed with district 10/17/2007.

Status :                 **Open.**     (Combined with 05-105)

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<u>File # :</u>	<b>07-102</b>
<u>Worksite :</u>	<b>PS #5</b>
<u>Subject :</u>	Security Cameras.
<u>Description :</u>	Security cameras not working inside and outside of building.
<u>Results :</u>	-Complaint filed with district 10/17/2007. -Business Administrator asked for crime statistics for the area. Quotes were received by the Facilities Department for the replacement of the DVR and repair/replacement of the cameras.
<u>Status :</u>	<b>Open.</b>
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<u>File # :</u>	<b>07-107</b>
<u>Worksite:</u>	<b>PS #5</b>
<u>Subject :</u>	Water Infiltration – gym.
<u>Description :</u>	-Water infiltration causing peeling paint and falling plaster from gym ceiling. -Complaint filed with District 12/14/2007.
<u>Status :</u>	<b>Open</b> – (Combined with 05-105)
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<u>File #:</u>	<b>07-108</b>
<u>Worksite :</u>	<b>PS #5</b>
<u>Subject :</u>	Water Infiltration – back stairwell.
<u>Description :</u>	-Water leaks from ceiling and walls causing falling paint and plaster in back stairwell.
<u>Result:</u>	-Complaint filed with District on 12/14/2007.
<u>Status :</u>	<b>Open.</b> (Combined with 05-105)
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<u>File # :</u>	<b>07-111</b>
<u>Worksite :</u>	<b><u>John F. Kennedy High School</u></b>
<u>Subject :</u>	Telephones.
<u>Description:</u>	-Telephones in classrooms have been broken or missing for years.
<u>Result:</u>	-PEOSH consultation stated “Telephones are now considered an integral part of the emergency communication system in the school and will be repaired and maintained.” -PEOSH complaint filed 01/14/2008.
<u>Status:</u>	<b>Open.</b> Evaluation of system being done (03/03/2008 JLMS&HC). Phone lines are operational. Some phones were replaced. Another evaluation will be done. (JLMH&SC 12/15/2008). WSH rep was asked on 12/17/2008 to provide the Association with a list of rooms which phones are needed.
<u>Note:</u>	PEOSH inspection conducted 01/30/2008 with PEA representation. In a letter from John Patterson, Chief Office of Public Employee Safety, stated “The emergency action plan requires that an employer have in place a system for notifying employers of an evacuation. It does not specifically require that a telephone system be used for this purpose. The employer’s action plan must meet the intent of the standard. PEOSH standards do not cover telephone operations. Therefore this complaint inspection will be considered a ‘no hazard’ ”.

## PEA Committee on Worksite Safety & Health Report

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PEOSH File #C70-080131

File #: 07-112

Worksite: **John F. Kennedy High School**

Subject: Stair treads / handrails.

Description: -Stair treads are badly worn, some stair edges are chipped. Some handrails are missing.  
-Some stairs over 96” in width lack center handrail.

Result: - PEOSH consultation observed these problems.  
-PEOSH complaint filed 01/14/2008.  
-PEOSH inspection conducted 01/20/2008 with PEA representation.  
-4 serious violations in 16 locations were found including:  
- missing handrails.  
- Loose handrails.  
- worn stair treads.  
- broken exit light.  
-Abatement date 04/16/2008.  
-Penalty of \$90.00 per violation per location after 04/16/2008.

Status: **Open** – District asked to an extension on April 10, 2008 to increase the abatement date to October 16, 2008. - District asked for *another extension* on 09/24/2008 to 02/15/2009 in order to complete the stair tread replacement. Most treads have been replaced by a contractor, and a few more need to be completed. Extension was granted by PEOSH on 10/09/2008.  
A few stair nosings must still be replaced in the gym. This will be done by the Facilities Department. (JLMS&HC 12/15/2008)

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File #: 07-118

Worksite: **PS #5**

Subject: Lock/Keys

Description: -Many classroom door lock are lacking keys. Rooms cannot be locked in an emergency situation.

Result: -Complaint filed with District on 04/25/2008.

Status: **Open.**

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File #: 07-119

Worksite: **PS #5**

Subject: Water leak.

Description: -Water leaked into room 223. Stained ceiling tiles possible developing mold.

Result: -Complaint filed with PEOSH on 04/25/2008.

Status: **Open.** (Combined with #05-105)

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File #: 08-102-E

Worksite: **B.U.I.L.D. Academy**

Subject: Heat

Description: -Heat does not function properly in first floor south classrooms

Result: -District notified by e-mail on 11/14/2008  
-A vacuum pump will be installed by facilities. This should solve the heat problem in the south classrooms. It should be installed by the new year. (JLMS&HC 12/15/2008)

Status: **Open.**

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**File #:** 08-104-E  
**Worksite:** Old RCS  
**Subject:** Heat  
**Description:** -Lack of heat in the Gymnasium.  
**Result:** -District notified by e-mail on 12/01/2008.  
-District stated on 12/02/2008 that A&A mechanical Contractors were hired to repair the problem, since it cannot be completed in house. They are trying to obtain a replacement unit, but have not given a time of delivery. District is suppose to follow-up on 12/12/03/2008.  
**Status:** **Open.** Contractor should have repaired the problem and everything should be functioning properly. Awaiting Confirmation from school. (JLMS&HC 12/15/2008)

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**File #:** 08-105-E  
**Worksite:** Performing Arts Academy  
**Subject:** Heat  
**Description:** -Heat does not function properly in Rooms 202, 203, 204, 205, 301, 302, 303, Auditorium.  
**Result:** -District notified by e-mail on 12/01/2008.  
-District stated on 12/02/2008 that they had replaced 30 feet of pipe recently and believe that the unit is air bound. A crew was suppose to have been sent on 12/02/2008 to resolve the problem.  
**Status:** **Open.**

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**File #:** 08-106 **PEOSH File # C70-08-1958**  
**Worksite:** PS # 10  
**Subject:** Water Infiltration / Mold  
**Description:** -Water infiltration causing mold throughout the building..  
**Result:** -District notified prior to JLMWS&H meeting on 10/28/2008.  
-District sent Jim Ruff from the Facilities Department who said it wasn't mold.  
-PEOSH Complaint filed 12/17/2008.  
-PEOSH/Labor inspection conducted on December 23, 2008 with PEA representation.  
-PEOSH Report dated 12/29/2008 received. Five serious violations in 9 locations were cited including:  
-Bent stair handrails.  
-Rotted fixed stairway.  
-Treads of fixed stairs were not slip resistant.  
-Electrical conduit not secured to wall in classroom.  
-Walls and ceilings damaged by water seepage.  
**Status:** **Open.** Awaiting PEOSH/Health to inspect for health related issues.  
  
**Note:** *N.J.S.A. 34:6A-33(a) was cited for the damaged walls and ceilings due to water seepage, which states “The employer did not provide the employees with a place of employment which is free from recognized hazards”.*

## PEA Committee on Worksite Safety & Health Report

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File #: **08-107**

Worksite: **PS # 10**

Subject: Peeling Paint

Description: -Peeling paint throughout the building. Since the building was build prior to 1978, some paint may contain lead.

Result: -PEOSH Complaint filed on 12/17/2008.

Status: **Open.**

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File #: **08-108**

Worksite: **B.U.I.L.D. Academy**

Subject: Request for Accident Investigation

Description: -In an attempt to open a window, a staff member thumb was caught between the frame and the window. When his hand was pulled away, the skin was stuck to the frame causing profuse bleeding. Other windows in the building are constructed in a similar manner and are in the same condition.

Result: -PEOSH Complaint filed 01/20/2009 by e-mail requesting an accident investigation.

Status: **Open.**

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File #: **08-109**

Worksite: **PS # 20**

Subject: Heat

Description: -Rooms 9, 10 and 11 lack adequate heat.;

Result: -District notified by e-mail on 11/25/2008.  
-District stated on 12/04/2008 that Room 10 had been repaired and they were waiting for parts for room 11.  
-Repairs have said to have been completed by facilities. (JLMS&HC 12/15/2008)  
-Attempts to repair were not successful. Classrooms are in the 50 degree temperature range.  
-PEOSH complaint filed 01/21/2009 by e-mail.

Status: **Open.**



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This report was completed on January 21, 2009 and contains all information provided to this Committee by the worksite as of this date.

An “**E**” after the file number designates that the complaint was filed through e-mail to the District. No written complaint form was sent. Should the problem continue, and a written complaint sent to the District, or a PEOSH complaint filed, the “**E**” designation will be dropped.

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**The following complaints need updating by the worksites. Please respond in writing as to the status of the complaint and if the problem still exists:**

# 07-111	JFK	Phones	1 <sup>st</sup> Request
# 08-102-E	BUILD	Heat	1 <sup>st</sup> Request
# 08-104-E	Old RCS	Heat	1 <sup>st</sup> Request
# 08-105-E	Perf. Arts Acad.	Heat	1 <sup>st</sup> Request

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**IF SCHOOLS FAIL TO RESPOND AND INFORM THIS COMMITTEE, OPEN COMPLAINTS WILL BE DESIGNATED AS “CLOSED” AFTER TWO (2) REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.**

Any errors which are discovered in the content of this report should be made in writing to :  
Paterson Education Association  
Committee on Worksite Safety & Health  
445 Straight Street  
Paterson, New Jersey 07501-2935