Acorn Woodland and EnCompass Testing Update

Presentation to Acorn Woodland/EnCompass Families and Faculty

9.3.2020 Via Zoom Webinar

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Asking Questions & Giving Input During the Presentation

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Environmental Injustice in Oakland
Desired Outcomes

● Provide our school community with:
  ○ an update on soil vapor testing sampling
  ○ responses to as many questions raised last week as we can

● Collect further questions from families and staff

● Provide next steps and follow up
# Agenda

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Norms

- Check for understanding
- Surface assumptions
- Share divergent views
- Presume positive intent
- No personal attacks
## Today’s Panelists: OUSD Staff

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<tr>
<td>Monica Thomas</td>
<td>Network Superintendent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christie Herrera</td>
<td>Executive Director of Early Learning</td>
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<td>Kate Sugarman</td>
<td>Network 3 Partner</td>
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<td>Julissa Lambert-Yank</td>
<td>Principal, Acorn Woodland Elementary</td>
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<td>Minh-Tram Nguyen</td>
<td>Principal, EnCompass Academy</td>
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<td>Shanna Vasquez</td>
<td>Principal, Acorn Woodland CDC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebecca Littlejohn</td>
<td>Risk Management Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Josh Daniels</td>
<td>General Counsel</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Sasaki</td>
<td>Director of Communications</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sondra Aguilera</td>
<td>Chief Academic Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tadashi Nakadegawa</td>
<td>Interim Deputy Chief of Facilities</td>
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Today’s Panelists: Partner Agencies

Dilan Roe
Alameda County Department of Environmental Health

Cheryl Prowell
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Background and Summary of Current Status
How did we get here?
Solvents found in groundwater

Solvents found in soil vapor and groundwater

School

¼ mile

Downhill
What is vapor intrusion?

Off campus Sources of Air and Water Contamination

Air Pollution

Indoor Air Pollution

Soil vapor migration

Common sources include leaking underground petroleum storage tanks, spilled chlorinated solvents from old dry cleaning facilities.

Soil contaminated with VOCs

Groundwater plume of VOCs

Groundwater

Bedrock

Utility line

Vapor intrusion through floor-wall cracks

Vapor intrusion through air vent disrupting subslab

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Vapor Intrusion Screening

Step 1: Plan Investigation

Step 2: Screening from Outside

Step 3: Indoor Air

Step 4: Manage the Risk (if any)
What’s next?

Step 1: Plan Investigation

Step 2: Screening from Outside

Step 3: Indoor Air

Step 4: Manage the Risk (if any)
Response to Questions
(from staff and families)

**Question:** Why did OUSD test the soil vapor at our campus?

- After Trichloroethylene (TCE) was found in groundwater under McClymonds High School in February 2020, Alameda County Department of Environmental Health (“DEH”) staff began to examine whether there were any sites overseen by DEH near OUSD school campuses.
- The Acorn/EnCompass Campus was identified as a result and DEH recommended soil vapor testing in July 2020.
Response to Questions
(from staff and families)

Question: When did OUSD test the soil vapor and when did OUSD get the results?

- As soon as OUSD received the recommendation to test the soil vapor, OUSD enlisted the services of Professional Service Industries (PSI) to test the soil vapor.
- The testing plan was submitted to DEH on July 23 and was reviewed and approved by DEH on July 29.
- Testing commenced on August 5th and 6th and sent to the lab for analysis.
- The raw results were provided to OUSD on the afternoon of Thursday, August 20.
**Question:** What did OUSD do when they received the soil vapor test results?

- OUSD received raw results from soil vapor tests on August 20
- On August 21 (Fri), August 24 (Mon), and August 26 (Wed), OUSD met with DEH staff and/or DTSC staff to understand implications of raw results and to determine next steps
- After meeting on August 26, DTSC wrote to OUSD stating that it did not recommend closing the Acorn/EnCompass Campus or imposing access restrictions to buildings
Question: What did OUSD do when they received the soil vapor test results?

[cont.]

- DTSC did recommend conducting indoor air testing of all buildings
- After receiving those recommendations, District Office staff met with Acorn/EnCompass site leaders on August 26 (Wed) and August 27 (Thurs) to inform them of the situation and to discuss how best to inform staff and the community
- Communications (email and robocalls) went out August 27 (Thurs) evening
Response to Questions
(from staff and families)

Question: PCE, benzene, and TCE were found in the soil vapor. Does this mean it is in the indoor air of our campus?

- Just because PCE, benzene, and TCE were found in the soil vapor does NOT necessarily mean that it is in the air
- OUSD will be conducting tests to determine whether PCE, benzene, and/or TCE are in the indoor air
- The results of those tests are expected to be available by mid to late November

At McClymonds, TCE was detected in the groundwater; subsequent testing at McClymonds found no trace of TCE in the indoor air except for just above a sump pump in the boiler room under the school

Response to Questions
(from staff and families)

**Question:** Would our staff, students, and families have been affected by PCE or benzene from coming recently to the Acorn/EnCompass Campus to register and/or pick up packets or devices?

- It is too early to say if indoor air is impacted
- To be affected by chemicals in indoor air someone would need to breath high concentrations for a long period of time
- Preliminary data does not indicate levels high enough to affect human health, but more testing is being done
- Screening levels are conservative
- Chemicals in soil vapor are unlikely to pose risk in outdoor air
Type Your Questions into the Chat Box

We Will Try Our Best to Address All Questions Today! A Follow-Up Email Will Be Sent to Respond to Any Unanswered Questions.
Closing & Next Steps
What happens next?

● Share FAQ with entire community next week
  ○ Incorporate any new questions
  ○ Get translated

● Indoor air testing is anticipated to start around Sep 15-16
  ○ Timing may be delayed pending review of the testing plan from DEH

● Once raw results are received, there will be review by DEH and then report will need to be finalized

● Final report should be public by mid to late November
Who to Contact?

- Rebecca Littlejohn, Oakland Unified School District, 510-879-1611, rebecca.littlejohn@ousd.org
- Dilan Roe, Alameda County Environmental Health, 510-567-6767, dilan.roe@acgov.org
- Cheryl Prowell, Department of Toxic Substances Control, 510-540-3967, cheryl.prowell@dtsc.ca.gov
- For Outdoor Air Questions: Henry Hilken, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, 415-749-4642, hhilken@baaqmd.gov
- For community environmental concerns, contact the City of Oakland