

# ESCANABA AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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July 31, 2017

Dear Eskymo Families,

I am writing to you to make you aware of certain issues that have arisen in the Igloo locker room which will impact high school students participating in football.

Over the summer, concerns were raised regarding the environment within our football locker room facilities. The district's Building and Grounds Committee subsequently met on July 11 to develop a plan for addressing these concerns. During this meeting, the committee determined that the first step should be air quality testing to determine the extent of any problems. We have received the results of this test, which show significantly elevated levels of mold throughout the Igloo structures. The report states that the mold likely stems from a lack of guttering above doors, unconditioned air, water leaks from appliances in the building, and spores from the outside tracked into the carpet as players return from the field. For community members wishing to view the full report, a copy is available in the Superintendent's Office.

Because the health and safety of our students is our first concern, we have determined that the Igloo will be closed to athletes and coaches until the necessary abatement and repairs are completed. Currently, we anticipate that the Igloo will reopen for the first varsity game on August 25. The closure of the Igloo also means that alternate arrangements must be made for football practices. Our Athletic Department is currently developing a plan that will be provided to players, families, and coaches. Any timeline changes will be communicated to you.

While we realize that this disruption will cause temporary inconveniences, we feel it best to act out of an abundance of caution. In the meantime, should you have any questions, please feel free to direct them my way.

I join with you in looking forward to a promising start to the 2017-2018 school year!

Sincerely,



Dr. Coby Fletcher  
Superintendent

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*The Escanaba Area Public School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.*