

New Brunswick's Roosevelt Elementary School to re-open Wednesday

***Repairs, cleanup at building damaged by ruptured sprinkler line
completed faster than initially projected***

***Superintendent cites exceptional teamwork between district staff and crews,
Mayor Cahill's office, city and county personnel***

NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ (October 6, 2015) – Students will be returning to New Brunswick's Roosevelt Elementary School much sooner than originally anticipated. In fact, they'll be going back tomorrow (Wednesday, October 7) -- and should report to classes as regularly scheduled.

Thanks to impressive, around-the-clock coordination between New Brunswick Public Schools maintenance teams, the office of New Brunswick Mayor James M. Cahill, city personnel, the Middlesex County Office of Emergency Management, and school district teachers and administrators, cleanup and repairs at the 83 Livingston Avenue building progressed with remarkable quickness. Initial projections were that Roosevelt School – which sustained water and electrical damage when a sub-basement sprinkler supply line burst during the early hours of Monday morning -- might not be ready to house students again for several weeks.

Roosevelt School's 899 students did not attend classes on Monday or today (Tuesday, October 6).

"The teamwork that went into this effort has been incredible," says New Brunswick Superintendent of Schools Aubrey Johnson. "School and district staff have worked 24/7, preparing for every eventuality, and we received tremendous support from Mayor Cahill's office and from the county, too. As an example, the city's building inspector was on-site through the day on Tuesday to help ensure we avoided delays."

The district will utilize generators to provide necessary function to the building, with emphasis on such essential, code items as lighting, alarms, water, and restroom facilities. Meanwhile, communications with the district's insurance provider are ongoing, with a goal of ensuring taxpayers won't be burdened with cleanup and repair costs.

Because food will not be served at the school until further notice, pending more complete restoration of power, students should plan to bring lunches from home.

About New Brunswick Public Schools

The New Brunswick, NJ public school district consists of two high schools (New Brunswick High School and Health Sciences Technology High School), a middle school (New Brunswick Middle School) and eight elementary schools (Lincoln, Livingston, Lord Stirling, McKinley, Redshaw, Roosevelt, Paul Robeson, and Woodrow Wilson schools). The New Brunswick Public Schools offer a comprehensive educational program for students in grades pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade and serve more than 10,000 students.

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