

November 20, 2018

## **Sierra House Elementary School Fire Update and Reports**

As you are aware, a fire broke at Sierra House Elementary School on November 11, 2018 at approximately 10:00 pm. The following is an update of the investigation of the cause of the fire, and the steps taken to ensure the safety of the affected structure and the air quality of the entire school.

### **Cause of the incident:**

Brad Zlendick, Lake Valley Fire Marshall and Incident Commander, and Cameron Dewey, investigator for York Insurance Company, have determined that the cause of the fire was electrical overload due to “daisy chain wiring” of two power cords in the classroom.

### **Areas affected:**

The fire erupted in a 15'x15' reading intervention classroom space. Smoke odor affected the hallway adjacent to that space, the upper pod (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms), the main hallway, and the multi-purpose room. The lower pods and the portable classrooms were not affected by smoke odor.

### **Steps taken to ensure the safe re-occupation of the facility by students and staff:**

Servpro, the local professional structure restoration company, analyzed the conditions of the school. The first priority was to contain the affected areas of the building. Remediation protocols to address the damaged areas, smoke odor, and soot removal were planned. It was determined that, based upon the excellent outside air quality, and available resources, that measures to be taken for the safe re-entry and re-occupation of the school within only two days, were practical and attainable.

On Monday morning, Nov. 12, Fire Marshall Zlendick released the space to Servpro who contained the affected area by setting up critical barriers to make it a negative air environment. Standard protocols for cleaning the air and restoring the structure began immediately.

Air scrubbers were installed in all affected areas throughout the school, and ran continuously for the 48 hours prior to the school-reopening. Air scrubbing involves machines that suck air through a series of hepa filters and is exhausted back into the environment, removing 99.97% of air particles. Fifteen filters were changed out at least twice each during the first 48-hours. Air scrubbers continue to run in all affected areas.

Before demolition began, samples of all materials which were to be removed from the building were tested for asbestos and other chemicals. Test results were received Monday night, Nov. 12, and revealed no asbestos or other dangerous chemicals detected. School was closed on Tuesday so that demolition could begin. Contents from the reading intervention rooms were removed to be inventoried. The bulk of the demolition process was completed by Tuesday evening, as planned. Contents that were potentially salvageable were set aside, and those that were not were placed in a dumpster.

On Wednesday, Nov. 13, prior to the start of school, the dumpster containing the burned materials was removed from the premises. A new dumpster was delivered for the sorting of other potentially restorable items. The sorting process took place on Wednesday and Thursday. Additional items were placed in the second dumpster, which was removed from the premises on Friday morning, prior to the start of the school day.

Sandblasting to remove the charred areas around the framing, inside the contained burn area, began on Saturday. Sandblasting was completed that day and was prepared for inspection by structural engineers, Gabbart & Woods (South Lake Tahoe). The inspection took place yesterday, Nov. 19, and the report will be available soon. The area remains blocked off and contained.

Additional cleaning efforts which took place on Monday and Tuesday, immediately after the incident, included carpet cleaning, vacuuming, wiping down of all horizontal surfaces in all bathrooms and classrooms in the main building, the multi-purpose room, and all vent openings. Servpro's deodorizing protocol will continue throughout this week, and includes the cleaning of attic spaces, vacuuming, and a second carpet cleaning in

the upper pod, prior to school opening on Monday. All protocols will be completed before Monday, November 26. Air scrubbers will be left in the school to continue air quality efforts.

Environmental Testing and Consulting (Reno, NV) took air samples to test for particles and asbestos on Friday, Nov. 16. The PEL (Permissible Exposure Limits) test results showed no particles detected. Results are posted on the District website under District - Public Notices.

As of yesterday (Monday, Nov. 19), a walk through by various LTUSD and Servpro staff revealed that most of the school is odor-free, but there are still some spaces with detectable residual odor. People who are more sensitive to odors may continue to smell smoke in the school for an unknown period of time.

Lake Tahoe Unified School District would like to extend its deep appreciation for the outpouring of support, advice, and assistance from the community, staff, and parents. The cooperation between first responders, the district, and the professional agencies below, has allowed us to maintain safety standards while minimally impacting the educational process. Thank you to:

Lake Valley, South Lake Tahoe, and Douglas County Fire Departments

Cal Fire

El Dorado County Sherriff / South Lake Tahoe Police / CHP

Servpro (South Lake Tahoe – 16 years' experience in restoration)

Innovative Electric

Environmental Testing and Consulting (Reno, NV)

El Dorado Roofing

Gabbart and Woods Structural Engineers

KS Telecom (fiber-optics / communications network)

Simplex (fire alarm certification)

Environmental Health Department (kitchen inspection / cleared for operation)

Maverick (phone system)

District personnel: Electrical, plumbing, HVAC, maintenance, IT, custodial, and food services.

Going forward, the two affected reading intervention rooms will be assessed by an engineering team to plan for reconstruction. We look forward to sharing the plan for reconstruction as soon as it is available.

Thank you for your patience and courtesy as we continue to work through this restoration process.

Sincerely,

Dr. James Tarwater, Superintendent

Billy Wessell, Chief Business & Operations Officer





**EL DORADO COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
OFFICIAL INSPECTION REPORT**

**PLACERVILLE OFFICE**  
2850 FAIRLANE CT. BLDG "C"  
PLACERVILLE, CA 95667  
530-621-5300  
Fax# 530-642-1531

**SOUTH LAKE TAHOE OFFICE**  
924 B EMERALD BAY RD.  
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA 96150  
530-573-3450  
Fax# 530-542-3364

Estab. Name: SIERRA HOUSE ELEMENTARY  
Site Address: 1709 REMINGTON TRL  
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA 96150-6825

Owner: Lake Tahoe Unified School  
1021 Al Tahoe Blvd  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150  
Telephone: 530-541-2850

Facility ID: FA0001841  
Inspection Date: 11/13/2018  
Program/Element : 1632 - SCHOOLS/PUBLIC AGENCIES (FOOD FACILITY)  
Inspection Number: DADNEKVXD  
Service: 004 - COMPLAINT-INITIAL (NON-BILLABLE)  
Result : 00 - NOT APPLICABLE  
Follow-up Date: Not Specified

Inspector: EE0000084-KAREN BENDER  
Inspection Start: Not Specified  
Inspection Stop: Not Specified  
Total Inspection: 30 min.  
Travel Start Time: Not Specified  
Travel Stop Time: Not Specified  
Total Travel Time: 0 min.

An inspection of your property revealed the following violations. Please note the date for correction as listed per violation. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Inspection Violations**

**NOTES - 16 F099**

Correct by "Date Not Specified"

In Compliance 11/13/2018

*Inspector Comments*

A fire in the school building started Sunday 11/11/18. Smoke affected the entire school and school was closed today, 11/13/18 (the day after Veteran's Day). Maintenance called Environmental Management today for kitchen inspection to ensure proper sanitation before school reopens tomorrow.

Power was reported to be out for 30 minutes only on 11/11/18 due to a fire in the building (not in kitchen).

No foods had to be discarded. There was a light smell of smoke in the cafeteria at time of this inspection, however in the kitchen there was no smell of smoke. Fans were blowing in the cafeteria.

ServPro workers were present continuing to work on the clean up of the smell of smoke and other areas outside of the kitchen that I did not observe today.

Dishmachine sanitizer 50 ppm chlorine -- good.

Refrigeration 38 degrees F -- good.

Kitchen cleanliness -- good. All walls, equipment and floors had been thoroughly cleaned.

There was no smell of smoke in the kitchen area today.

Hot water 120 degrees F -- good.

Kitchen staff came in earlier today to clean the kitchen.

The kitchen is approved for resuming normal operations starting 11/14/2018.

*KAREN BENDER*

KAREN BENDER  
Environmental Health Specialist

Chris Lauer  
Maintenance

## EL DORADO COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OFFICIAL INSPECTION REPORT



**PLACERVILLE OFFICE**  
2850 FAIRLANE CT. BLDG "C"  
PLACERVILLE, CA 95667  
530-621-5300  
Fax# 530-642-1531

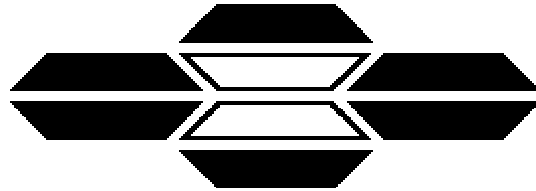
**SOUTH LAKE TAHOE OFFICE**  
924 B EMERALD BAY RD.  
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA 96150  
530-573-3450  
Fax# 530-542-3364

Estab. Name: SIERRA HOUSE ELEMENTARY  
Site Address: 1709 REMINGTON TRL  
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA 96150-6825

Owner: Lake Tahoe Unified School  
1021 Al Tahoe Blvd  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150  
Telephone: 530-541-2850

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Did you know effective January 1, 2018, AB 1219, the California Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, went into effect? The California Health and Safety Code was amended to make it easier for food facilities to donate food. Please consider donating your excess food product to a local food bank, pantry or soup kitchen. As a good faith food donor, you are protected from civil and criminal liability if the food product later causes harm to the recipient unless the injury is a direct result of your gross negligence or intentional misconduct in the preparation or handling of the donated food. See Section 1714.25 of the Civil Code and Sections 114432 to 114434, inclusive of the Health and Safety Code. For more information, please visit [https://www.edcgov.us/Government/emd/environmentalhealth/Pages/food\\_program.aspx](https://www.edcgov.us/Government/emd/environmentalhealth/Pages/food_program.aspx) <<https://www.edcgov.us/emd>>.



**ASBESTOS TEM LABORATORIES, INC.**

**EPA Method 600/R-93/116  
Polarized Light Microscopy  
Analytical Report**

**Report No. 138349**

1350 Freeport Blvd., Unit 104  
Sparks, NV 89431  
(775) 359-3377  
FAX (775) 359-2798

*With Main Office Located At:*  
630 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94710  
Ph. (510) 704-8930 Fax (510) 704-8929

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ASBESTOS TEM LABORATORIES, INC



NVLAP Lab Code 200104-0

Nov-12-18

Bob Nemitz  
Environmental Testing & Consulting  
14640 Toll Rd  
Reno, NV 89521

RE: LABORATORY JOB # 881-09468  
Polarized light microscopy analytical results for 10 bulk sample(s).  
Job Site: 1709 Remington Trail (SLT)  
Job No.:  
Report No.: 138349

Enclosed please find the bulk material analytical results for one or more samples submitted for asbestos analysis. The analyses were performed in accordance with EPA Method 600/R-93/116 or 600/M4-82-020 for the determination of asbestos in bulk building materials by polarized light microscopy (PLM). Please note that while PLM analysis is commonly performed on non-friable and fine grained materials such as floor tiles and dust, the EPA method recognizes that PLM is subject to limitations. In these situations, accurate results may only be obtainable through the use of more sophisticated and accurate techniques such as transmission electron microscopy (TEM) or X-ray diffraction (XRD).

Prior to analysis, samples are logged-in and all data pertinent to the sample recorded. The samples are checked for damage or disruption of any chain-of-custody seals. A unique laboratory ID number is assigned to each sample. A hard copy log-in sheet containing all pertinent information concerning the sample is generated. This and all other relevant paper work are kept with the sample throughout the analytical procedures to assure proper analysis.

Each sample is opened in a class 100 HEPA negative air hood. A representative sampling of the material is selected and placed onto a glass microscope slide containing a drop of refractive index oil. The glass slide is placed under a polarizing light microscope where standard mineralogical techniques are used to analyze and quantify the various materials present, including asbestos. The data is then compiled into standard report format and subjected to a thorough quality assurance check before the information is released to the client.

Please note all samples will be held for 3 months from the date of receipt unless otherwise requested by client.

Sincerely Yours,

Laboratory Analyst  
ASBESTOS TEM LABORATORIES, INC.

--- These results relate only to the samples tested and must not be reproduced, except in full, with the approval of the laboratory. This report must not be used to claim product endorsement by NVLAP or any other agency of the U.S. Government. ---



NVLAP Lab Code 200104-0

# POLARIZED LIGHT MICROSCOPY ANALYTICAL REPORT

EPA Method 600/R-93/116 or 600/M4-82-020

Page: 1 of 1

Contact: Bob Nemitz	Samples Indicated: 10	Report No. <b>138349</b>
Address: Environmental Testing & Consulting	Reg. Samples Analyzed: 10	Date Submitted: Nov-12-18
14640 Toll Rd	Split Layers Analyzed: 0	Date Reported: Nov-12-18
Reno, NV 89521	Job Site / No. 1709 Remington Trail (SLT)	

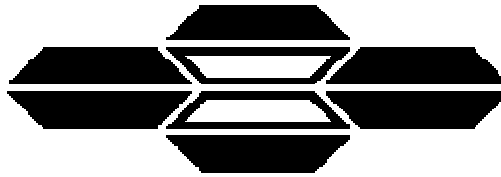
SAMPLE ID	ASBESTOS % TYPE	OTHER DATA	DESCRIPTION
		1) Non-Asbestos Fibers 2) Matrix Materials 3) Date/Time Collected 4) Date Analyzed	FIELD LAB
1 Lab ID # 881-09468-001	<b>None Detected</b>	1) 11-25% Cellulose, Fiberglass 2) 75-89% Gyp, Calc, Other m.p.	Wall material-smooth, teamwork trail & compassion court rooms
		3) _____ 4) Nov-12-18	Wall Materials-White/Tan
2 Lab ID # 881-09468-002	<b>None Detected</b>	1) 11-25% Cellulose, Fiberglass 2) 75-89% Gyp, Calc, Other m.p.	Wall material-smooth, teamwork trail & compassion court rooms
		3) _____ 4) Nov-12-18	Wall Materials-White/Tan
3 Lab ID # 881-09468-003	<b>None Detected</b>	1) 11-25% Cellulose, Fiberglass 2) 75-89% Gyp, Calc, Other m.p.	Wall material-smooth, teamwork trail & compassion court rooms
		3) _____ 4) Nov-12-18	Wall Materials-White/Tan
4 Lab ID # 881-09468-004	<b>None Detected</b>	1) 1-5% Cellulose 2) 95-99% Bndr, Calc, Gyp, Other m.p.	Panel-mastic-white, teamwork trail & compassion court rooms
		3) _____ 4) Nov-12-18	Mastic-Off-White/Yellow
5 Lab ID # 881-09468-005	<b>None Detected</b>	1) 90-95% Cellulose 2) 5-10% Bndr, Other m.p.	Panel-wall, teamwork trail & compassion court rooms
		3) _____ 4) Nov-12-18	Panel-Tan
6 Lab ID # 881-09468-006	<b>None Detected</b>	1) 2-10% Cellulose, Synthetics 2) 90-98% Bndr, Calc, Gyp, Other m.p.	Carpet-mastic-yellow, teamwork trail & compassion court rooms
		3) _____ 4) Nov-12-18	Mastic-Black
7 Lab ID # 881-09468-007	<b>None Detected</b>	1) 50-70% Cellulose, Fiberglass 2) 30-50% Bndr, GlassFrgs, Other	Ceiling tile- white 2x4, teamwork trail & compassion court rooms
		3) _____ 4) Nov-12-18	Ceiling Tile-Grey
8 Lab ID # 881-09468-008	<b>None Detected</b>	1) 50-70% Cellulose, Fiberglass 2) 30-50% Bndr, GlassFrgs, Other	Ceiling tile- 12x12 white, hall
		3) _____ 4) Nov-12-18	Ceiling Tile-Grey
9 Lab ID # 881-09468-009	<b>None Detected</b>	1) 1-5% Cellulose 2) 95-99% Bndr, Calc, Gyp, Other m.p.	Mastic-white, hall
		3) _____ 4) Nov-12-18	Mastic-Off-White
10 Lab ID # 881-09468-010	<b>None Detected</b>	1) 1-5% Cellulose 2) 95-99% Bndr, Calc, Gyp, Other m.p.	Cove base mastic-yellow/white, hall
		3) _____ 4) Nov-12-18	Mastic-Off-White

Limit of quantitation of method is estimated to be 1% asbestos using a visual area estimation technique. Split samples are inhomogeneous.

Laboratory Analyst   
Greg Hanes







**ASBESTOS TEM LABORATORIES, INC.**

**NIOSH 0500**

**Total Particulates Not Otherwise Regulated**

**Analysis Report**

**#361571**

600 Bancroft Way, Ste. A  
Berkeley, CA 94710  
(510)704-8930  
FAX (510) 704-8429

# NIOSH 0500 AIR FILTER ANALYSIS REPORT

Contact: Jack Gashow	Samples Submitted: 3	Report No. <b>361571</b>
Client: Environmental Testing & Consulti Reno, NV89521	Samples Analyzed: 3	Date Submitted: Nov-19-18 Date Reported: Nov-19-18
Job Site / No. : 1709 Remington(SLT)		

SAMPLE ID	SAMPLE RESULT	DETECTION LIMIT	LOCATION / DESCRIPTION
1 Lab ID # 1139-142-1	<b>&lt;0.25 mg/cu.m</b>	<b>0.25 mg/cu.m</b>	Lower pod-library <u>Volume (L)</u> 120 <u>Sampling Date</u> Nov-16-18 <u>Analysis Date</u> Nov-19-18
2 Lab ID # 1139-142-2	<b>&lt;0.25 mg/cu.m</b>	<b>0.25 mg/cu.m</b>	Multi-pupose room <u>Volume (L)</u> 120 <u>Sampling Date</u> Nov-16-18 <u>Analysis Date</u> Nov-19-18
3 Lab ID # 1139-142-3	<b>&lt;0.25 mg/cu.m</b>	<b>0.25 mg/cu.m</b>	upper pod-R-16 N/E <u>Volume (L)</u> 120 <u>Sampling Date</u> Nov-16-18 <u>Analysis Date</u> Nov-19-18
Lab ID #			<u>Volume (L)</u> <u>Sampling Date</u> <u>Analysis Date</u>
Lab ID #			<u>Volume (L)</u> <u>Sampling Date</u> <u>Analysis Date</u>
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Lab ID #			<u>Volume (L)</u> <u>Sampling Date</u> <u>Analysis Date</u>

Lab QC Reviewer Jo Ann Huerto  
Jo Ann Huerto

Analyst Jie Zhang  
Jie Zhang

