

Cocciardi and Associates, Inc. (Cocciardi) recently completed asbestos testing within the Scranton School District's Northeast Scranton Intermediate School. The goal of the testing was to confirm the actual location of asbestos-containing plasters on a room-by-room basis. This information will further help the District and their environmental consultant plan necessary response actions to ensure the safety of students and staff.

BACKGROUND: Existing information provided to the District identified plasters within the building as asbestos-containing. Based on further review of this data and reports of significantly damaged plaster in the 1906 wing, it was recommended by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Cocciardi that additional testing occur to provide the District with more accurate data on the location of asbestos-containing plaster.

SAMPLING: Sampling and analysis was completed in nearly 80 rooms by EPA/PA Department of Labor & Industry licensed Asbestos Building Inspectors in accordance with current rules for asbestos in schools. Samples were submitted to EMSL Analytical, Inc. in Cinnaminson, NJ for analysis (EMSL maintains current accreditation for asbestos bulk sample analysis).

RESULTS: A review of preliminary test results has found the following:

1. All plasters within the 1931 wing of the building are non-asbestos containing.
2. A total of 5 rooms in the 1906 wing were identified as containing asbestos. *Additional analysis is currently underway for these samples.*

Additionally, Cocciardi will be working with the District on developing an interim action plan to immediately address the above plaster and other potential environmental issues. We are cautiously optimistic that re-occupancy can occur immediately after these remediation efforts.