


One Larkin Center
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Anibal Soler, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

DATE: March 26, 2025

TO: Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio, President,
Trustee Gail Burns, Vice President
and Members of the Board of Education

FROM: Mr. Anibal Soler, Jr. 

RE: **Request for Emergency Declaration – Cornell Academy Asbestos Sampling and Testing**

I approved the attached Request for an Emergency Declaration for asbestos sampling and testing at Cornell Academy.

On March 25, 2025, several third-floor classroom ceiling tiles became wet and collapsed, raising concerns about asbestos, as noted in the AHERA report. Other areas also showed sagging and discolored tiles. To address this, we will conduct comprehensive asbestos testing throughout the building.

LIRO Engineers, under their existing contract, will sample and test approximately 60 ceiling tiles from various locations, including classrooms, hallways, offices, and bathrooms. The estimated cost for this work is \$12,000.

Due to time constraints, the scope of work, and the time typically involved in procurement of construction under General Municipal Law 103, an Emergency Declaration needs to be issued to expedite this work.


AS/nmr

cc: C. Jarufe, A. DiLello, F. Hernandez, J. Liszewski, M. Pelliccio

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 26, 2025

TO: Anibal Soler, Jr.

FROM: Michael Pelliccio 

RE: Request for emergency declaration
for Asbestos sampling and testing at
Cornell Academy

One Larkin Center
Yonkers, New York 10701
Tel. 914 376-8008
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mpelliccio@yonkerspublicschools.org

Anibal Soler, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Frank Hernandez
Associate Superintendent

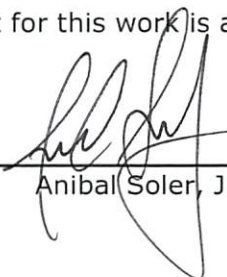
Michael J. Pelliccio
Executive Director
School Facilities Management

On March 25, 2025, multiple ceiling tiles in several 3rd floor classrooms became wet and collapsed. There were immediate concerns regarding the presence of asbestos in the tiles, as the AHERA report mentions these tiles as assumed to contain asbestos. Additionally, other areas in the building exhibited sagging and discolored ceiling tiles, raising further concerns.

Given the widespread nature of the issue, we have decided to conduct comprehensive asbestos testing of the ceiling tiles throughout the building. The Schools Facilities Department will be utilizing LIRO Engineers under their existing "Professional Environmental Consulting" contract to sample the ceiling tiles at Cornell Academy. The scope of work includes sampling and testing the ceiling tiles on both floors of the building. This will involve the analysis of approximately 60 samples from various locations, including classrooms, hallways, offices, and bathrooms at Cornell Academy.

The estimated cost for this work is approximately \$12,000.00.

APPROVED:

 3/27/25
Anibal Soler, Jr. Superintendent of Schools

DENIED:

Anibal Soler, Jr. Superintendent of Schools

MP/mk