

WE ARE YOUR DOL



Kathy Hochul, Governor
Roberta Reardon, Commissioner

Elizabeth Getman

Supervising Safety and Health Inspector

New York State Department of Labor, Public Employee Safety and Health

Central Intake Unit
207 Genesee St, Room 703
Utica, NY 13501
www.labor.ny.gov

August 28, 2024

Superintendent Joshua Meyer
Boquet Valley Central School District
25 Sisco Street
Westport, New York 12993
jmeyer@boquetvalleycsd.org

Dear Supt. Meyer:

On August 27, 2024, the New York State Department of Labor, Public Employee Safety and Health Bureau (PESH) received a notice of alleged safety and health hazards at: Bouquet Valley Central School District Lake View Campus, 25 Sisco Street, Westport, New York 12993.

The specific nature of the alleged hazard is as follows: Location - Basement Classroom. Employees are exposed to mold growing on rugs and surfaces after the basement was flooded in August 2024. Employees are also exposed to mice, bugs, radiators, boilers and exposed pipes.

We have not determined whether any hazards, as alleged, exist at your workplace, and we do not intend to conduct an inspection at this time. However, since allegations of violations and/or hazards have been made, we request that you immediately investigate the alleged conditions and make any necessary corrections or modifications.

Please advise me in writing, no later than September 12, 2024, with the results of your investigation. You must provide supporting documentation of your findings, including any applicable observations and photographs/video which you believe would be helpful, as well as a description of any corrective action you have taken or are in the process of taking, including any previously corrected conditions relative to this complaint.

If corrections are required and cannot be made immediately, please advise this office of the time you will need to make the corrections, by indicating a specific abatement date. Include in the notification any interim measures you will take to protect the employees until the conditions are completely corrected. After the corrections are completed, please provide a detailed description of the final abatement as indicated above.

It is our goal to assure that hazards are promptly identified and eliminated. Please take immediate corrective action where needed. We encourage employee participation in investigating and responding to any alleged hazard. If we do not receive a response from you indicating what appropriate action has been taken or that no hazard exists and why, a PESH inspection will be conducted.

An inspection may include a review of documentation, including but not limited to, the following: injury and illness records and related safety and health programs.

PESH offers consultation services, without charge, to assist in resolving all occupational safety and health issues. To discuss or request the consultation services, contact me at 315-793-2673 or elizabeth.getman@labor.ny.gov.

You are requested to post a copy of this letter where it will be readily accessible for review by all of your employees and return a copy of the signed Certificate of Posting to this office. In addition, you are requested to provide a copy of this letter and your response to it to a representative of any recognized employee union and/or safety committee. Failure to do this may also result in an on-site inspection. The complainant has been furnished a copy of this letter and will be advised of your response. The PESH Act provides protection for employees against discrimination because of their involvement in protected safety and health related activities.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me at 315-793-2673 or elizabeth.getman@labor.ny.gov. Your personal support and interest in the safety and health of your employees is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Getman

Supervising Safety and Health Inspector

New York State Department of Labor, Public Employee Safety and Health