



August 23, 2018

Dear Ide School Parents,

I am writing to give you some details on the ruptured water pipe that occurred at Ide School early this morning. I apologize for the late evening email, but I wanted to give you the most accurate information possible before tomorrow. The school is safe and we will follow a relatively normal routine on Friday, Aug. 23.

I would like to begin by recognizing the tremendous team effort that occurred today to ensure our students and staff were safe at all times. Mr. Rhoads and our custodial crew were on site early this morning moving furniture and mopping up the water to get the school ready for students. Our teachers and paraprofessionals stepped up all day long to help our students adapt to the situation.

The ruptured water pipe was a supply line containing "clean" water, which made the cleanup process easier. This was a newly installed pipe and the plumbing contractor will be responsible for all costs associated with the cleanup. The rupture occurred in the ceiling above the main hallway, so students were rerouted when moving to the gym for lunch. We took several precautions to avoid slipping hazards in the impacted areas, which included the library, surrounding hallways, new main entrance, and Mr. Dunning's/Ms. Carbray's classroom.

AdvantaClean, an experienced cleaning company, has been hired to complete the water removal, drying, and cleaning process. Drying with fans and dehumidifiers will continue tomorrow (Friday). After school on Friday a special chemical cleaning/disinfecting treatment will be used to ensure that the water does not lead to a mold issue down the road. They will be using a botanical-based treatment, which is approved for use in public elementary schools in Illinois. The treatment will be finished on Saturday and it will be safe for students to return to a normal routine on Monday.

The cleaning company is using thermal imaging and moisture sensors to ensure the school is returned to the original condition. If any potential for future mold is identified, those areas will be repaired this weekend. This will include a disinfection process and if necessary, the replacement of baseboards and wallboard. Once the work has been completed, AdvantaClean will provide the school district with verification that all impacted areas are 100% clean and dry.

While this is not an ideal way to begin the school year, it has certainly given us all an opportunity to see how well we can adapt on behalf of our students. I am very proud of the team we have at Ide School!

Sincerely,

Tim Arnold, Ph.D.
Superintendent